

JOHN PAULDING VFW POST #587 ANNOUNCES NEW VETERANS MEMORIAL



Tim Copsey, PCED director; John Daeger, Paulding VFW #587 Commander John Daeger; and Dan Wilder, Paulding VFW.

The John Paulding VFW Post #587 has announced a new veterans memorial that will be established in the village. The monument will face the corner of US127 and Caroline Street and is designed to honor all veterans and branches of the military. The main monument is the centerpiece of the memorial that features three towering granite pillars and a life size bronze eagle. There will be six granite

memorials honoring the service branches of the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and Space Force. It will then have two additional memorials honoring Gold Star Families and Combat Wounded Veterans, along with a bronze battle cross memorial and three commercial grade flagpoles holding the flag of the United States of America, the Ohio State flag, and the Prisoner of War flag.

The memorial will be built at 220 N. Williams Street, facing northeast, so it will be viewed by passing cars going south on US127. This is the current site of the former Church of Christ and more recently Faith Alive Church building.

The Paulding VFW team has invested extensive time in sharing insight and aesthetic goals for the monument. (Continued on Page 2)

WOODBURN COMM. HISTORICAL SOC. MEETING DATE SCHEDULED

The Woodburn Community Historical Society will meet on April 24, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. At the Woodburn Community Center, corner of Woodburn Rd. and SR 101. There will be an update on

the Allen 200 event scheduled. We will have a former resident and pilot ere with information on air strips around this area.

If you have any information or pictures of the pilots, Paul Augsperger, Gerald Felling, Loran Rich, Rex Zehr, and any others or landings trips, please come to the meeting to share.

Hope to see you there. Also mark May 22, 2024 on your calendars for the next meeting - same place, same time.

—Gloria Gerig

THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone for the 90th birthday wishes! Thank you to those who helped set up and decorate. To those who were able to attend the open house on my behalf; for the gifts, cards, and written memories. Thank you, also, to those who sent cards and shared memories. Your presence and well wishes were greatly appreciated! My new goal, God willing, is to reach 95!

Thank you!
Deacon Bob Nighswander

CARING & SHARING FOOD PANTRY INVITES PUBLIC TO GRAND OPENING!



New building for the Caring & Sharing Food Pantry in Paulding. The public is invited to the grand opening on May 2.

The Caring & Sharing Food Pantry invites the Paulding County general public to attend the grand opening of its new building on Thursday, May 2 at 318 N. Walnut Street in Paulding. The new building opened to serve clients on April 10.

The grand opening on May 2 will include a ribbon cutting, open house and facility

tour. Attendees are invited to celebrate over lunch from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at an Off the Clock event, sponsored by the Paulding Chamber of Commerce.

All attendees are encouraged to donate a shelf-stable food item at the door. Financial donations will also be accepted. (Continued on Page 3)

RAIDERS GIVE JEROME 100th VICTORY - 'ANTOINE, HEAD LEAD RAIDERS'

Tucker Antoine tossed a complete-game on the mound and posted three hits while



driving in four runs at the plate to lead the Wayne Trace Raiders to a 12-1 non-league baseball victory Friday night in Putnam County.

Antoine finished with two

singles and a double on the night at the plate, scoring once and adding four runs batted in. On the mound, the Raider senior pitched the five-inning complete-game giving up just four hits, one unearned run and two walks while striking out three.

Fellow senior Tyler Head also had a big night for the red, white and blue, posting a single and a double while scoring three times and driving in two runs.

Wayne Trace opened a 3-0 lead in the second inning before Kalida picked up a single run in the home half of the third.

The Raiders then broke the game open with a three-run fourth to extend the margin to 6-1 before sealing the contest

(Continued on Page 7)

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Support local Organizations & Businesses making this issue of the West Bend News

Community Calendar

MON & WED

• Antwerp Comm. Food Pantry @ Antwerp GMC, 9a-12p

April 22-24

• Spring Revival Svcs @ Auglaize Chapel Church of God, Oakwood, 7pm

April 27

• Little Big Band @ Huber, 7:30pm

• Crane Twp Cecil FD Pancake Breakfast, 7-11am
• Flat Rock Freemason Open House, Payne OH, 10a-12p
• Woodburn Lions Donuts @ Woodburn Comm. Park

May 2

• NH UMC Women in Faith Rummage fundraiser, 9a-6p

May 3

• FW Swinney Homestead Open House, 10a-4p

May 11

• WT NHS 5K @ Payne Ball Park, 8am
• Woodburn Lions Donuts @ Hardware lot, 7-11a
• Woodburn Mother's Day Festival
• Antwerp Chamber Chocolate Walk, 11a-1p
• Heritage Lions Donuts @ Hoagland Comm. Park
• JPHS Spring Tea @ Museum, 1-3pm

May 17

• DC Sen. Ctr. Senior Gala @ Eagles of Defiance, 5-9:30p

May 18

• Heritage Lions Donuts @ Monroeville Comm. Park



Add your event to the calendar info@westbendnews.net

OBITUARIES

FORMERLY OF
ANTWERP, OH:

Trudy E. Rath, 71, formerly of Antwerp, Ohio now of South Whitley, Indiana passed away at home on Wednesday, March 27, 2024.

ANTWERP, OH:
Thomas "Tom" Bennett, 83, of Antwerp, passed away at home on April 4, 2024. Arr by Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp.

PAYNE, OH:
Gene Lynn Flaugh, 76, of Payne passed away Friday, April 5, 2024. Arr by Dooley Funeral Home, Payne.

ANTWERP, OH:
Susan Jane Getrost, 71, of Antwerp, Ohio passed away at home on Saturday, April 6, 2024. Arr by Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp.



ANTWERP, OH:
Charles "Chuck" Layton Sawyer, 81, of Antwerp, Ohio passed away Saturday, April 13th, at Defiance Inpatient Hospice Center.

Chuck was born in Paulding County, Ohio on January 29, 1943, a son of the late Hazel L. and Paul F. Sawyer.

He retired from Dana Weatherhead, Antwerp, after 37 years of service. Chuck enjoyed puzzles, the Chicago Bears and watching NASCAR. Dale Earnhardt always remained his favorite driver. Chuck's family was always foremost in his life. He enjoyed family camping trips and watching his grandkids play sports, always cheering for the Antwerp Archers.

Chuck will be sadly missed by his wife, Judy (Stumphy); daughters, Monica (Dan) Miller, Denise Coleman, Nancy (Greg) Hughes and Malinda (Michael) Schmidt; siblings, Eddie (Judy) Sawyer, Sharon Scott and Denny (Mary) Sawyer; grandchildren, Dustan and Dexter Shipe, Zac, Andy and Jeffrey Coleman, Avrial Sawyer and Madison Schmidt and 9 great grandchildren.

He was also preceded in death by his sisters, Nancy Sawyer and Ruby Bakle.

Viewing is at Dooley Funeral Home, 202 W. River Street, Antwerp on Wednesday, April 17th, 4 - 7 PM, when the rosary will be recited.

Chuck's funeral mass is at 10 AM on Thursday, April 18th at Divine Mercy Catholic Church, 203 W. Townline Street, Payne, Ohio. PLEASE MEET AT CHURCH AFTER 9:45 AM

He will be laid to rest in Maumee Cemetery, Antwerp.

Memorials are to Antwerp EMS, PO Box 1046, Antwerp 45813 or Antwerp Athletic

Boosters, 303 S. Harrmann Road, Antwerp 45813.

Fond memories may be shared at dooleyfuneralhome.com



FAREWELL TO THE BRICK

Farewell to the brick-and-mortar church located at 220 North Williams Street formally known as The House of Love Ministries.

The bible states in Ecclesiastic 3:3 that there is a time to tear down and a time to build. It is now time to tear down the House of Love Ministries and build a new Veterans Memorial for Paulding County. As the former Pastor and Owner of the brick-and-mortar church, it was one of the holiest sites that I had encountered. I am not saying this because I was the pastor of this church, but because inside the church is the place where the sick and hurting seemed to converge and congregate. Jesus came for the sick not the well, the well need no physician.

During our time in this building, from 2008 - 2019, God had allowed us to baptize 275 people in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Although I have heard it said that our inner workings were sometimes messy because we did not have the long-standing traditional, denominational foundation that most other churches in Paulding County possessed; where we lacked in traditional religiosity we made up in spiritual spontaneity. Meaning, we dealt with everyone on a one-on-one case basis. If they came in hungry, we fed them. If they came in homeless, we found them shelter. If they came in needing Christ, we introduced them. If someone needed to be baptized, we normally baptized right on the spot. We did not put people aside to have a board meeting to decide their faith.

Although religious tradition has its place, I have found that this walk is more about relationship than religion. Yes, relationship with Christ. The Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20, calls for us to go into the world preaching the word of Jesus Christ baptizing all nations in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The law of Jesus Christ calls for us to love our neighbor as ourselves. That was the

mission statement of House Of Love Ministries.

I would like to thank God for the opportunity to serve Him in Paulding County and to experience His miraculous healing power on His people in this town. I thank Him for the experience of building a ministry from scratch and watching Him provide for all our needs every step of the way. I thank all the Godly people he sent to help us along the way. Thank you God for the Journey, Thank you God for the assignment, it was a blessing!

— Pastor Dwayne Richardson

DAY OF SALVATION

By: Doris Salvation;
Scribed by: Jessica Stevens

A song we sing in church will encourage those who see the need to be forgiven of their sins and be washed in the blood of The Lamb (Jesus Christ): "At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the light and the burden of my heart rolled away, it was there by faith I received my sight and now I am happy all the day."

Jesus Christ gave his life for who so ever will come and accept this gift of salvation. We came by faith believing that the price has been paid by our Lord Jesus. We can do nothing to earn this great salvation, no "works" or good deeds will satisfy the heart of God since His son Jesus Christ paid the price in full. Another song that helps us: "The cross upon which Jesus died, is a shelter in which we can hide. It's grace so free, is

(VFW ... continued from
Page 1)

working with Homier Monumental in Defiance, Ohio, in designing a plan that was recently revealed to the public.

VFW Post #587 Commander John Daeger stated, "Our post members wanted to give the Paulding community a memorial that would provide suitable recognition of their citizens who served in the military. The proposal, provided by Homier's Monumental, exceeded everyone's expectations. Upon our first review we were awestruck. It took a while for us to fully absorb all the unique features of the veterans memorial. Once completed, the memorial will be a prominent feature of downtown Paulding and something for our future generations to respect and cherish."

The site of the memorial was made in part by many collaborative discussions prior to the VFW team involvement. Paulding County Economic Development Director Tim Copey shared, "The PCED office was tasked with trying to find a building for a new church organization that has grown in the Paulding village some time ago. We talked with the owner of this church building and scheduled some walk through visits. We brought in church members and then contractors to see what it would take to rehab the structure to a clean and safe environment. The deeper we looked the more we found that needed to be remediated, to the point that no one could afford the purchase and investment and still see a return on investment."

The largest remediation issues, pointed out by two different contractors, in-

sufficient for me, there's love every lasting as deep as the sea. There's room at the cross for you, there's room at the cross for you. Tho' millions have come, there's still room for one, yes, there's room at the cross for you."

Jesus Christ was laid in a tomb and rose from the dead which made this great salvation complete. If the Lord had not been raised from the dead by God the Father we would still be in our sinful state.

Because of the great truth of the resurrection we also, who have accepted the Lord Jesus as our Savior, have the hope of being raised from the dead (corruption into incorruption and this mortality into immortality at the last day when Jesus returns again to earth). As believers in Jesus Christ we must realize that our spirit is born again. Our soul is to be transformed by reading and studying God's word. Knowing and obeying the Word of God gives us a powerful connection to Father God. Growing spiritually is a major requirement of Our Lord. We do not want to stay in a "baby" state.

We also must be looking for the second coming of Jesus Christ because he is coming for those who are looking for him (Hebrews 9:27-28) God tells us to be holy just as he is holy (1Peter 1:15-16) Many signs in the sun and moon etc. are occurring (such as the eclipse of April 8th 2024) to keep us alert to the Lord's return, Are you awake, bright-eyed and excited or dull-eyed and half asleep thinking that all is well? It is not well! Wake up Church of God time is short. Amen

cluded: roof, ceiling, HVAC, and lead paint issues, in addition to a heavy black mold presence in the basement area. It was at this point ownership was interested in working with the Paulding County Land Reutilization Corporation (Land Bank) to see what options were available.

"Once it was agreed there was not going to be an investment into the building, and the Land Bank was asked to get involved. They provided the necessary funding for the demolition and removal of the church structure. However, the Land Bank was not interested in taking on this project just to tear down a building and have another empty lot in town. The Land Bank wanted to have a purposeful and positive end use for this site. The timing of the VFW team asking about available sites in the village could not have come at a better time." Copey continued.

The Paulding VFW team had been working on their own for quite some time discussing different options and sizes for memorials. The catch continually seemed to be where the memorial(s) would be located. A casual inquiry from Jon Snodgrass with Copey, and a follow up conversation by VFW committee member John Daeger led to final discussion about the pending opportunity to place the memorial on this site.

Daeger shared, "In the initial stages of our project, our post members spent hours searching Paulding for locations for the veteran's memorial without success. Just when we were about ready to terminate the project, we were contacted by Tim Copey who inquired if we would be interested in the church property.

Scripture of the Week

"But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive."

— 1 Corinthians 15:20-22

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER WINNER



Pictured from left to right: 1st Row: Dylan Vowles. 2nd Row: Olivia Vowles, Kayla Vetter-CCD Coordinator, Ryan Vowles, Father Dan Borgelt. 3rd Row: Marlin Eicher-Grand Knight, Josua Vowles, Toby Stark-District Deputy.

The Hicksville Knights of Columbus wish to acknowledge Dylan Vowles, a second grader, on the achievements of his winning Keep Christ in Christmas poster. Dylan's poster won 1st place at the council level and continued on to win 1st place at the Ohio State Knights of Columbus contest for his age group. Dylan's poster was then sent to the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council for the In-

ternational Contest. Again, Dylan's poster won 1st Place at the International level for his age group.

Winning the International Contest, Dylan will receive a congratulations letter and a check from Supreme for the amount of \$250! Also, Supreme will take his winning poster and make a Christmas cards out of it which will be made available on knights-gear.com.

It only took us a couple heartbeats to respond yes, and to request additional information. Since our first meeting with the Land Bank, Paulding County Area Foundation (PCAF) and the Paulding Fraternal Order of Eagles, the VFW has been totally overwhelmed by the level of support and interest of everyone we spoke with. What started as a dream, has now turned into something that is very achievable."

There are many incredible individuals and various entities working toward the end goal of a meaningful and beautiful memorial. Included in that is the Village of Paulding. Through initial design drawings and revisions, the village has been instrumental in discussing pieces of sidewalk development and potential upgrade of the adjoining city owned parking lot to the south of this site.

"The Village of Paulding is very excited about the new Veterans Memorial. We be-

lieve it's a wonderful project that will honor those who have served our country worldwide, and also in remembrance of those who lost their lives fighting for our freedom." Commented Village of Paulding Mayor Greg White.

Fundraising for the project has already begun. In yet further collaboration, the Paulding Fraternal Order of Eagles has made a significant initial donation to kick off the \$250,000+ fundraising needed for the project. PCAF will be the fundraising collection point for the project. There are many achievable levels of donation including "in-kind" donations. If you would like to make a monetary donation you can send them to PCAF at 101 E. Perry Street Paulding Attn: Cardinal Park Veterans Memorial. For additional questions or involvement contact John Daeger.



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Anthony and Gina Smith

Anthony (Tony) is the son of Ronald and Diana Smith, Gina (Santos) is the daughter of Amalia and the late Jose Santos.

The couple have one son, Anthony, and two daughters, Angelina (Nate) Gill and Kristina (Brendon) Bowlin.

They also have nine grandchildren: Ethan, Blair, Liam, Anthony, Jensen, Nolan, Logan, Ezra and Jaxon, all of Antwerp.

They are planning a celebration in May with family and friends.

TAMMY CHMIELEWSKI PROMOTED TO RETAIL DISTRICT MANAGER



2020 as the Branch Manager of the Montpelier office and most recently served as the Branch Manager of the Bryan office. In her new role, she will use her vast experience and leadership skills to motivate her teams to consistently pursue the Bank's mission and create a work environment based on the OWN IT (Opportunity, Wisdom, Nurture, Integrity and Teamwork) core values. Chmielewski will

support the 11 branches in her market to ensure consistent goal achievements are met while providing excellent customer service every step of the way.

Premier Bank is pleased to announce that Tammy Chmielewski has been promoted to Vice President, Retail District Manager serving the Bank's Northwest Ohio retail district.

Chmielewski has 28 years of banking experience. She joined the Premier family in

"I am passionate about helping not only my employees achieve their career goals but also helping my consumer and business clients achieve their financial goals. I feel very fortunate to be able to build relationships in the communities we serve," she explained. "I am focused on

ensuring that our retail teams are serving the communities and providing a premier banking experience by offering tailored solutions to help assist our clients with their short- and long-term financial needs."

Chmielewski is OH Life, Health and Annuities licensed and also holds her Series 6, Series 63 and SIE licenses. She is a member of the Montpelier Chamber of Commerce. She enjoys spending her free time participating in local community events in Bryan and Montpelier. Chmielewski currently resides in Bryan, OH with her husband of 33 years, Troy. They have two adult sons and a daughter-in-law.

Chmielewski's office is located at 204 E. High Street in Bryan, OH. She can be contacted at 419-630-2554 or TChmielewski@YourPremierBank.com.

"HANDS ON A HARDBODY" AT VAN WERT CIVIC THEATRE

As the curtain rises on the next show at the Van Wert Civic Theatre, one thing steals the spotlight immediately – a stunning, cherry-red hardbody pickup truck. But this isn't just any prop; it's the heart and soul of the theatre's latest production, Hands on a Hardbody. Set to grace the stage from May 2 to May 12 for eight performances, this musical promises an unforgettable journey.

Behind the scenes, the creation of this spectacle has been a labor of love, involving a blend of creativity, craftsmanship, and community spirit. The endeavor is a collaboration between the Van Wert Civic Theatre, Vantage Career Center's Auto Collision Repair and Auto Technology programs, and a dedicated team of volunteers. Together, they've transformed an older pickup truck into a theatrical marvel, ready to play a starring role

in Hands on a Hardbody.

Inspired by a true story, the musical unfolds in a small Texas town, where ten contestants vie for a brand new truck by enduring a grueling competition – keeping their hands on it for as long as possible. Yet, beyond the surface, the show delves into the deeper layers of human experience. At its core, Hands on a Hardbody celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the pursuit of the American dream. With lyrics by Doug Wright, lyrics by Amanda Green, and music by Trey Anastasio & Amanda Green, the musical's blend of country and rock music promises to enthrall audiences.

Under the direction of Chad Kraner, with choreography by Kim Pollock and musical direction by Dee Fisher, the stage is set for an electrifying performance. The actors bringing these folks to life include John Shuffle, Adam Ries, Marcus Freewalt, Taylor Hesselung, Nick Long, Doug Grooms, Dale Terry, Jerry Zimmerman, Chad Kraner, Amanda Block, Amy Boley, Kim Warnecke, Nancy Shuffle, Hannah Davis, Stacy Rife, Josh England, Courtney Wendel, Hannah Kraner, Terry Plas, Laura Ridenour and Roger Rex.

The show is proudly sponsored by Lifestyle Furniture in Van Wert, a testament to the local support behind this theatrical endeavor. This will also be the debut of updated stage lighting made possible with a grant from the Van Wert County Foundation.

For more information call the box office at 419-238-9689 or online at vwct.org, they guarantee entry into a world where dreams collide, friendships form, and the red pickup truck reigns supreme. Show dates are May 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 at 8:00 p.m., with matinee performances on May 5 and 12 at 2:00 p.m..

(Caring & Sharing ... continued from Page 1)

cepted.

The following local businesses will provide food and refreshments for the event:

- State Bank of Paulding Food Truck (lunchtime only)
- Smother It Good Food Made with Love (Off the Clock only)
- Grounded Coffee & Crumbs
- Nini's Ice Cream

The pantry's grand opening for clients runs April 10 through May 5. Clients will receive a swag bag of items, including a chicken & rice casserole kit containing ingredients donated by the First Presbyterian Church, St. Paul Lutheran, Branch Fellowship Church, Paulding Church of the Nazarene, Melrose Community Church, Paulding Exempted Village Schools staff, and other private donors.

The clients also will receive items donated by Paulding County Hospital, Stoller Honey, the Bargain Bin, Limitless and OSU Extension. Other client gifts include peanut butter and jelly from a Paulding County Hospital employee food drive; more than 175 handmade dishcloths created by Patti Stoller, Jane Buchman, Alice Lawson, Rita Diaz, Jean Bulau and

Becky Schlatter; and a collection of recipes printed by the Paulding Progress.

The celebration for the new building also was funded by donations from the Paulding First Christian Church, Divine Mercy Parish and School, Gleaners Black Swamp Arbor, the Bargain Bin, Paulding Ministerial Association and private donations. Grants were provided through Thrivent Action Team projects to pay for the printing of the client swag bags by Signature Embroidery and the grand opening logo buttons by West Bend Printing.

The pantry board extends a huge thank you to all those who donated items and money, as well as to the volunteers who have organized the grand opening events.

The pantry's board of directors, executive director, volunteers and donors began the fundraising for this building in April 2022, raising more than \$600,000 in just two years. But the idea of a new building grew out of discussions with the members of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Paulding several years before that. A community committee was formed. The land was purchased. Plans were drawn. The idea became a dream, and the dream is now a reality

The deadline for the West Bend News is THURSDAYS at 5pm for the following issue.

Send your news, ads, and classifieds to info@westbendnews.net

Call 419-258-2000 for information or printing quotes.

MILITARY HISTORY IN PAULDING COUNTY

By: Mark Holtsberry

John William Marker was born in Paulding County, Ohio March 15, 1893. The son of George Marker, John's



mother could not be located. In 1900, found where John was living at the Children's Home in Defiance, not sure on details.

On June 3, 1917, John while living in Briceton, Ohio, joined the National Guard out of Paulding. He served with Company B. 2nd Ohio National Guard. This unit incorporated into Company B. 166th United States Infantry, 42d Division. John was shipped overseas leaving a fella named Robert Granger of Briceton as the person to be notified in case of an emergency.

He was promoted to Private 1st Class August 17, 1918. Then promoted to Corporal August 31, 1919. John saw action at Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, Meuse Argonne Sector. He served in the American Expeditionary Forces October 18, 1917 to April 25, 1919. John boarded the ship "Leviathon", at Brest, France April 18, 1919. He arrived at Hoboken, New Jersey, April 25, 1919.

After the return home,

thanks to the people of Paulding County, their generosity, commitment, enthusiasm and faith.

As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the mission of the Caring & Sharing Food Pantry is to engage the local giving community and volunteers to help serve our neighbors and work against food insecurity in Paulding County. It operates solely

John settled in Michigan where on January 31, 1924, John married a gal named Mary Ellen Ryan, born May 30, 1905 in Minnesota, the daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Ryan. A son, John Michael Marker was born November 21, 1924. In 1927, Mary and John and son John, were living at 710 North Park Avenue, Jackson, Michigan.

In 1930, the family was living in Blackman, Jackson County, Michigan at 13 Henrietta Street. John was working as a laborer at an Auto Parts Factory. On February 27, 1935, Mary had filed for divorce on grounds of non-support. In 1936, Mary remarried a fella named Franklin Odell. They were living at 310 North Milwaukee Street, Jackson, Michigan.

On December 6, 1936, in Jackson, Michigan, at the age of 43, John William Marker passed away, he was buried in Mount Evergreen Cemetery, Jackson County, Michigan. His body was placed in the Soldiers Field, grave 17. On June 3, 1944, his service record was verified to receive an upright military tombstone.

His stone was ordered September 21, 1944. As for his son, John Michael, he lived in Redford, Michigan, registered for the World War Two draft December 30, 1942, in Jackson, Michigan. He was working at the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company. He was making gas tanks for bomber airplanes. He served in the military March 30, 1943 - October 19, 1945.

He married a gal named, Dorothy Giar in Michigan July 14, 1945. He passed away February 27, 2003. On April 20, 1983, Mary passed away in Orlando, Florida. She is buried with her second husband, Franklin.

... Until Next Time!

based on food and financial donations from the community and with the support of Feeding American and West Ohio Food Bank, of which it is a member.

For more information about the pantry, follow the Caring & Sharing Food Pantry on Facebook. To contact, the pantry call (419) 399-9562 or email pauldingfoodpantry@gmail.com.

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WOODBURN LIONS CLUB 2024 DONUTS

- April 27** – Harlan Park Athletic Association – Opening Day, Harlan Park Shelter House, 7:00-11:00 am
- May 4** – Woodburn Youth League Opening Day & Mothers Day Scholarship Fund Raiser, Woodburn Community Park, 7:00-11:00 am
- May 11** – Woodburn City Wide Garage Sale, Mother's Day Main Street; Chop Shop/Hardware Parking Lot, 7:00-11:00 am
- June 1** – ACDC - Antwerp Days, 7:30-11:00 am
- June 15** – Woodlan Volleyball Fund Raiser; Chop Shop/Hardware Parking Lot, 7:00-11:00 am
- August 1,2 & 3** – Harlan Days – Harlan Park; Thursday, 4:00-10:00 pm; Friday, 4:00-10:00 pm; Saturday, 7:00 am - 10:00 pm
- Aug – October** – Home Football Games – Friday Nights, Etzler Field – Woodlan High School
- September 14** – Payne Celebration @ Payne Legion, Payne, Ohio
- September 14** – Woodburn Fall Garage Sale, Chop Shop/Hardware Parking Lot, 7:00-11:00 am
- September 20** – Woodburn Homecoming Parade @ Woodburn, 4:30-6:00 pm
- September 24** – Harlan Farmers Market @ Harlan Park, 7:00-11:00 am
- October 5** – Woodlan Scholarship Fund Raising Donuts; Chop Shop/Hardware Parking Lot, 7:00-11:00 am
- October 26** – Woodburn Business Appreciation, Chop Shop Hardware Parking Lot, 7:00-11:00 am; **Halloween Party** – Woodburn Community Center, Costume Contest – Cider – Donuts, 7:30 p.m.

* SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE *



PARKVIEW HEALTH AGAIN NAMED 'BEST AND BRIGHTEST IN WELLNESS'



Parkview Health co-workers get a visit from one of the Parkview Pups. The program brings certified therapy dogs into the workplace as a way to boost spirits.



Parkview Health resident physicians and members of the My Well-Being team show off their creations during a chalk therapy session.

FORT WAYNE, IN – April 18, 2024 – Parkview Health has been named a Best and Brightest in Wellness company by the National Association for Business Resources (NABR) for the sixth time. Parkview was one of 11 companies nationally selected in the first round of awards for 2024.

“Taking care of our co-workers is important to enable them to take great care of our patients,” said Kristen Ruble, well-being manager, Parkview Health. “By serving our more than 16,000 co-workers with programs to support their physical and mental health, they can remain fully engaged in their jobs and give their all for those they serve and care for every day.”

Parkview’s My Well-Being program provides a variety of services including health and lifestyle programs to help people eat better or get more active, physical activity challenges and intramural sports opportunities and checkup tools to gauge mental health. “Within the last year, Parkview also introduced new programs including allowing time off for mental health days and the new Parkview Pups program, which brings certified therapy dogs into facilities to visit co-workers and boost their spirits.

“Being recognized for our wellness initiatives six consec-

utive years is a testament to the stellar work our My Well-Being team does for our co-workers,” said Dena Jacquay, chief administrative officer, Parkview Health. “Parkview has grown significantly over the past six years and as we continue to recruit new co-workers, we want them to know that we’re always ready and available to support them in their career.”

The Nation’s Best and Brightest in Wellness winning companies were evaluated by an assessment created and administered by a leading wellness research firm. Each entry was examined statistically for quantitative and qualitative data. Each survey was scored on a point system based upon criteria to benchmark and improve wellness program effectiveness. They include outcomes, analysis, tracking, participation and incentives, benefits and programs, leadership, employee input, culture and environment.

“These companies have prioritized making a significant impact on their culture,” said Jennifer Kluge, president and CEO of NABR and The Best and Brightest Program. “With a focus on their employees’ wellbeing as the top priority, this powerful community of the nation’s elite leaders have gained a competitive edge.”

Good News doesn't just happen. It's made!

Send us your good news and let everyone know of the great things happening in your community.

LAWN CARE FOR THE HOMEOWNER

Planting Grass Seed

Many of you will be planting grass seed to either fill in bare spots in your yard or thicken your lawn by overseeding. Here are some tips from seed selection to the first mowing to ensure your seeding is a success!

The first step is selecting a grass seed. Make sure you insist on top quality seed so you do not plant weeds. “Bargain” grass seed mixes are often full of weed seeds, undesirable grasses, immature seeds, and even filler material to make the package larger. Once it is planted, you must live with the results – sometimes ugly – for years. The few dollars more it costs to buy top quality grass seed is one of the best homeowner investments you can make. Investing in high quality seed now can save money in long term maintenance of your lawn. For more information about grass seed types, please contact us here at Grabill & Woodburn Hardware.

Next, prepare the “seedbed” by working up the soil to give the seed a place to lodge and take root. Soil particles from pea to marble size are ideal. But be careful of working the soil too finely. Too fine of soil particles can lead the surface to crust-over and dry out too quickly. If you are over-seeding, large swathes of thin shallow furrows should be cut into the soil with a slicing machine. The seed must have good seed to soil contact in order to grow.

Then, sow the seed evenly using a broadcast, drop, or handheld spreader to do the job. Spreading large areas by hand is a mistake because it is almost impossible to get consistent coverage. If the coverage is uneven, the grass will sprout in patches. To cover the seed, simply go over the area lightly with the back of a leaf or garden rake. Alternatively, drag a light object, such as a doormat, over the seeded areas.

Using a starter fertilizer the same day you seed will make a world of difference in your results and help your lawn get off to a healthy start. A starter fertilizer has high phosphorus content to stimulate early root development. It is also time-released to provide nutrients to the grass plants when they need them. This makes your seedlings grow faster and develops a thicker and greener lawn. Agricultural fertilizers like 12-12-12 do not make good starter fertilizers because they release their nutrients too quickly. Once the grass seeds have germinated, there is nothing left of the agricultural fertilizers for the young plants to use.

Mulch only if necessary. Consider mulching on sloping areas, such as hillsides, or to reduce the frequency of watering. A mulch can be clean weed-free straw or peat moss. Simply scatter a light amount over the area just enough to provide a light shading. The seedbed should be clearly visible through the mulch. Young seedlings can suffocate if mulch is too thick.

Watering is critical to young seedlings throughout

PJHS PAULDING PRIDE



Each month students at Paulding Junior High School (PJHS) earn Paulding Pride cards for going above and beyond what is normally expected of Paulding Junior High students. Shown in the picture are the Paulding Pride card recipients for the month of March

all growing stages. The seedbed should be kept moist. It is much better to water frequently rather than deeply. Only the top inch of soil needs to be kept moist, either by watering or rainfall. As seedlings sprout, watering becomes even more critical. Tender young plants will die if moisture is not available to them.

When the young plants have developed into mature grasses, mowing can begin as soon as there is anything to cut with the mower set at about 1-1/2 inches high. Do not mow when the soil is overly wet because it can damage your newly planted grass. Eight weeks after the new seedlings sprout, you should follow-up with an application of Weed & Feed to enhance growth and further eliminate any undesirable weeds.

—Jim Gerig
Jonathan Green Law
Consultant
Grabill & Woodburn
Hardware

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LIBRARY IN MAY

The Paulding County Carnegie Library is getting ready for May. The library will be closed on Monday, May 27, in observance of Memorial Day. 2024 Summer Reading Program, “Adventure begins at Your Library” is coming soon. Registration will begin on May 28 at all locations.

The Adult section will continue with its Coffee Talk every Thursday at 1:00 p.m., join us for a snack and some lively conversation. Bring a friend or meet some new ones. Following Coffee Talk on May 2, Mary Beth Torsell from the Alzheimer’s Association will be here to discuss the 10 warning signs of Alzheimer’s and advancements of treatments. The Black Swamp Bookworms Book Club is meeting on Tuesday, May 14 at 5:30 p.m. The book this month is *None of This is True* by Lisa Jewel. New members are always welcome. Call the library for more details. Teen Cookbook Club will meet at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 20th. All supplies will be provided, you will make and eat some delicious treats. This month all teen participants are invited to stay for Adult Cookbook Club. The Adult Cookbook Club meets on May 20th at 5:30 p.m. in the conference room. Bring a prepared dish and a copy of your recipe to share. This month’s theme is “Party Favorites” things that can be served at a graduation party, cookout, etc. Every Tuesday this month from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., stop by for a

“make and take” craft project. Do it here and take it with you. This is geared towards teens and adults. All materials are provided, bring some friends, it is a fun time. Call ahead if you want and we will have it ready for you. While supplies last. On Tuesday, May 21st at 1:00 p.m., we will continue the monthly series titles “A Year of Frugal Living” with Carla Morris. Join us as Carla shares all kinds of practical information on making the most of your money and cutting down on waste among other things. This month the topic is “Making vs Buying. Don’t miss this one. Lots of practical information on making your shopping trips a little less painful. There are new programs being planned all the time. Watch for the launch of our Summer Reading Program, coming soon. Call us at 419-399-2032 for details as they are available, and “like” and “follow” our facebook page; Paulding County Carnegie Library.

The Children’s Room will have story time every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m., the final one for the school year will be May 15 at 11:00 a.m. We are planning special story times for the summer during our Summer Reading program. Watch for more information coming soon. The children’s room is planning all kinds of adventures for the summer. Children’s Book week May 6 through 12th. Stop in and check out our children’s selection of books. Stop in the week of May 6 to the 13th and make a card for Mom for Mother’s Day. All supplies provided.

ANTWERP BRANCH:

The Antwerp branch will be having Storytimes each Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. On May 8th we will host a special Mother’s Day Storytime,

so be sure to join us if you can. Book Club will be held on the 13th at 6:00 p.m. Cookbook Club selections are out and will be held on May 20th at 5:45 p.m. Each Friday a craft will be put out for the patrons. Be sure to sign up for Summer Reading, May 28th.

GROVER HILL BRANCH:

The Grover Hill branch will be adopting the spirit of Hawaii culture the whole month of May. Like Hawaii’s hot pink blooming flowers and feelings of Ohani (family, home and those who are family. We hope a trip to the library will be your happy place to bloom and feel at home! May 1st we will begin signing up for the monthly drawing, visit the library to enter. The winner will be drawn on May 31st. Thursday May 2 there will be a flower craft after school program appropriate for ages teen and adult. Call 419-567-1717 to sign up and for more details. All supplies will be provided. Monday Munchkin club story time will be May 6th and May 20th at 10:30 a.m. These themed times include a read aloud story, activity and a treat designed for children 6 and under. Senior Bingo is Thursday, May 9th at 1:00 p.m. Seniors aged 50+ will gather for a Hawaiian Hula bingo Luau. The event is currently booked, but please call for cancellations, or future bookings. Thursday, May 23rd join us for a School’s Out for the summer celebration, for all ages. Wednesday, May 29th, the GHBL Book Club will meet at 4:00 p.m. for a patron-led discussion of the novel, *Island of Sweet Pies and Soldiers* by Sara Ackerman. Multiple copies of this selection will be available for checkout in regular, large

The Paulding County Veterans’ Service Office

The Paulding County Veteran’s Service Office is dedicated to aiding Paulding County veterans and their families in time of need.

There are two basic services the agency provides:

- 1 – EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – Provide short term financial assistance to eligible veterans and their families who demonstrate a need. This includes, but is not limited to, food, gas, mortgage/rent and assistance with utility payments.
- 2 – CLAIMS ASSISTANCE – Provide services for veterans and other claimants for help with VA claims for any federal, state, or local benefits.

We also provide reimbursement for the cost of transportation to VA medical facilities in our area, or in the case where the veteran cannot drive himself, we will provide a driver.

Our office hours are Tuesday thru Friday, 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Arrangements can be made for after office hours appointments

Any questions, please call 419-399-8285

print and CD formats. "Ke Aloha o ka Haku" We are all one. Make every person, place or condition better than you left it always.

OAKWOOD BRANCH:

The Oakwood branch is excited for a month of engaging activities and learning opportunities. Mark your calendars and join us for these exciting programs. 1. Children's Story time every Monday at 11:00 a.m. Bring your little ones for a delightful storytelling session filled with imagination and wonder. Our dedicated staff will read enchanting stories, fostering a love for reading from an early age. 2. Good Morning book Club will be May 7th 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Join fellow book enthusiasts for a lively discussion of this month's selected book. Share your thoughts, insights and recommendations, while enjoying a cup of coffee or tea. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with readers! 3. Adult Cookbook Club will be on May 16th at 5:30 p.m. Call foodies and cooking enthusiasts! Our cookbook club will gather to explore the flavors of country cooking. Bring your favorite country-inspired dish to share and exchange recipes with other passionate cooks. 4. Homegrown Tea Class will be on May 16th at 6:00 p.m. Discover the art of tea blending and the incredible benefits of different herbs in our homegrown tea class. Learn how to create your own unique blends and enjoy the soothing and healing properties of herbal infusions. Please call to register for this class. 5. Watercolor Painting Class is May 23rd at

4:00-6:00 p.m. Unleash your creativity and join art teacher Sasha Britton from Oakwood Elementary for a captivating watercolor class. This class is open to adults and teens who want to explore the beauty of watercolor art. Please register as spots are limited. 6. Monthly Quilt Block Class is May 28th 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Quilting enthusiasts, this is one's for you. Join us for our monthly quilt block class, where you'll learn new techniques and create a unique quilt block. Stop by the library to pick up your fabric requirements and get ready for a fun and creative session. 7. Summer Reading Registration opens May 28th. Get ready for an exciting summer adventure with our outdoor-themed reading program. Make sure to sign up and embark on a journey filled with captivating stories, prizes and activities. Join us at Cooper Community Library as we celebrate the joy of reading, learning and connecting with our amazing community.

PAYNE BRANCH:

The Payne branch will be offering the week of May 6th a Mug for Mom for kids to make. Kids can unleash their creativity by designing a mug for their mom. Supplies are limited. Saturday, May 11th we will be hosting Muffins with Mom from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Story time is every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. Come join us for a story and a craft. Free Fridays! Check out 3 movies and grab a popcorn bucket. We have Puzzle Exchange and much more.

The Friends of the Paul-

ding County Carnegie Library will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, May 13th at 6:00 p.m. in the south wing of the Main library.

Buy the Book used bookstore will be open during the Paulding Garage Sales, May 11 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Beginning the weekend of May 25th, we will be happy to accept gently used books to add to our collection; up to 2 boxes per household. The Friends Group loves making new titles available to our community for a free will donation. Check them out!

MAKE HICKSVILLE "LITTER-LESS"

The quaint, pretty Village of Hicksville looks a little trashy these days. Windy winter days have strewn litter and debris far and wide. It's time for a good spring clean-up!

As part of the Great American Cleanup and with support from Defiance County Environmental Services, Hicksville is scheduled for a "Clean Up Your Neighborhood" day on Saturday April 27. From 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on that day, everyone is asked to pitch in - gather your family, friends, club, team, co-workers, or neighbors; choose an area or road, and start cleaning!

Keep Defiance County Beautiful will provide the supplies: garbage bags, gloves, litter grabbers, and safety vests (as long as supplies last). Participants should register in the lower parking lot at Grace United Methodist Church to sign up and get supplies. Once your area is litter-free, deposit your bagged trash in either your own or a public trash receptacle and you're done! Go home and feel good about a job well done on behalf of your community.

Easy-peasy, and oh, how nice it will be when it's done!

So, please plan to participate in the clean-up if you are able. Hicksville will be prettier and we'll all live better in a clean, tidy town. And in the meantime, be a good citizen; be mindful of trash. If you look after your own, no one else will have to.

(If you have photos of your group at work, please email them to jcrosser@defiancecounty.oh.gov for possible inclusion on the District Facebook Site 4CSWD.)

TERM VS. PERM: WHICH IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

If you've been thinking about life insurance, especially if you have family, loved ones, or anyone who depends on you financially, you might be curious about the different kinds of policies available. Which type is right for you?

Essentially, you can look at two main categories of life insurance: term and permanent. Term insurance is a pay-as-you-go option that covers a specific amount of time, usually 20 years or fewer. Term insurance benefits are paid to your beneficiaries free of federal income taxes if you pass away during the coverage period, but there's no opportunity to build cash value.

Permanent insurance, such as whole life or universal life, offers coverage for as long as you pay the premiums, and in addition to providing a tax-free death benefit, also offers a chance to build equity, or cash value, on a tax-deferred basis.

When determining which type of insurance is appropriate for your needs, you'll want to consider these factors:

- **Cost** - Term insurance is generally affordable for most people, which is why it may be particularly suitable for parents and young adults who may be at the beginning of their careers. Permanent insurance is typically more expensive, largely because it is meant to last for one's lifetime

and some of the premiums go toward building cash value in the policy and paying for other features. Generally, the younger and healthier you are when you purchase permanent insurance, the lower your rates will be.

- **Length of time insurance is needed** - If you think you will only need life insurance for a certain period - perhaps until your children are grown - you might lean toward term insurance. If you feel the need for life insurance for other goals throughout your lifetime, for whatever reason - you might have a special needs child, or perhaps you want to use your policy to help pay for retirement, or you wish to include the policy as part of your legacy and estate plans - you may want to consider some type of permanent insurance.

- **Investment preferences** - You may have heard the phrase "buy term and invest the difference." Essentially, this just means that an investor could purchase low-cost term insurance, and then invest the money that was saved by not getting permanent insurance. This can be a valuable strategy in some situations, but people often don't actually invest the difference. A permanent insurance policy, through the payment of premiums, may result in a steady buildup of cash value or continued contributions to the policy's investment components. For many people, this discipline is helpful.

- **Future insurability** - If you have health issues, it could become difficult to get permanent insurance after you've reached the end of a term insurance policy. (Some term insurance policies do offer the opportunity to convert to permanent coverage, usually without the need for a medical exam.) You could avoid this potential problem by purchasing permanent insurance when you are still young and healthy.

Ultimately, you will need to weigh the various factors involved in the permanent-versus-term decision. You also might benefit from consulting a financial professional, who can evaluate which type of insurance is most appropriate for your situation. But whether it's term or permanent, make sure you have the coverage you need to protect yourself and your loved ones.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS

OHIO LOCATIONS

Antwerp: Antwerp Pharmacy, H20, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Family Dollar, Pop-N-Brew, Pit-Stop, Antwerp Manor, Library, Genesis House, G-Mart, Ties & Bows
Bryan: Chief, Town&Country, Walmart, Bryan Hospital, CVS, 4 Seasons, Dollar General
Cecil: 127 Maramart
Charloe: Charloe Store
Continental: Okuley's Pharmacy, Dollar General, ACE Hardware
Defiance: Newman's Marathon Carry Out, Smoke Stop, Chief, Dollar General, Senior Center, Walmart, Cabbage Patch, Advanced Auto, Main Stop Marathon, Rite Aid, Defiance Public Library
Edgerton: Kaiser Supermarket, USPS, Utilities Dept., H & W Napa, Marathon Main Stop, Marathon (East)
Grover Hill: N&N Quick Stop, GH Branch Library
Hicksville: Sailors, Hickory Creek Nursing Home, Shell Station, Citgo, Marathon, Dollar General, Subway, Senior Center, Village offices, Johnson Memorial Library
Ney: Marathon
Oakwood: Oakwood Market, The Oakleaf, Dollar General, Library, Landing Strip
Paulding: Stykemain, Chief, Corner Market, Integrity Ford, Holly, Wood & Vine, Napa Do It Best, Bargain Bin, Maramart, Dollar General, Dairy Queen, Rite Aid, Ace Hardware, Gorrell Bros., Albert Automotive, Paulding Courthouse, Paulding VFW Post 587, Paulding Co. Sheriff's Office, Board of Elections, Gardens of Paulding, Paulding County Hospital, Kwik Mart, PC Carnegie Library

Payne: Village office, Panchos, Vancrest of Payne, Dollar General, Lichty's Barber Shop, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Puckerbrush Pizza, Maramart, Library
Sherwood: Post Office, Village Food Emporium, Sherwood Bank, Sherwood Library
Scott: Scott Post Office
Van Wert: CVS, Ace Hardware, Chief, Walmart, Family Video, Orchard Tree

INDIANA LOCATIONS

Fort Wayne: Hahn Systems, Walmart, Walgreens, Great Clips & Goodwill (Maysville Rd.), Golden Years Nursing Home, Golden Years Assisted Living
Grabill: Save-A-Lot, Grabill Hardware, Grabill Country Sales
Harlan: Marathon, Harlan Donuts, Dollar General, Harlan Cafe, Antwerp Exchange Bank
Hoagland: Mel's Town Market, Hoagland Pizza Pub
Milan Center: Milan Center Feed & Grain
Monroeville: Mel's Deli, Phillips 66, The Village of Heritage Assisted Living, Dollar General
New Haven: ACP Library, McDonalds, Ken's Meat Market, Paterson Hardware, Crumback Chevrolet, McDonalds, CVS, Clips, NH Bakery, Old City Hall, Richard's
Woodburn: Clip-N-Tan, Woodburn Hardware, Woodburn Xpress, Country Oasis, Financial Partners, Heckley Automotive, S&V Liquors, Post Office, Dollar General, Phoenix Manor, Chop Shop, ACP Library, Willies Cafe II

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The deadline for the West Bend News is THURSDAYS at 5pm for the following issue. Send your news, ads, and classifieds to info@westbendnews.net Call 419-258-2000 for information or printing quotes.

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TINORA SWEEPS WAYNE TRACE INVITE



Paulding's Kayleigh Dunham over the hurdles! [More pictures at westbendnews.net](http://westbendnews.net)

HAVILAND - The 47th annual Wayne Trace Track Invitational was held Monday evening April 15th with the Tinora Rams sweeping their way to both the boys and girls team championships.



Wayne Trace has a good run in the 4x4 relay. Shown here is Eli Treece. [More pictures at westbendnews.net](http://westbendnews.net)

The Ram boys doubled up the competition as Tinora won the meet with 138 points while Rossford finished second with 69 points. Wayne Trace (68-1/2), Edgerton (65), Fairview (60), Paulding (54), Hicksville (43), Stryker (21-1/2) and Ayersville (8) completed the field.

Tinora senior Aiden Ritzenhouse was the boys meet's most valuable participant following wins in the 200 dash (23.29), high jump (6-2) and long jump (20-1-1/2). Ackerman also ran on the first place 800 relay team (Joey Guisinger, Graham Askins, Ryan Steingass) that set a new meet record time of 1:33.57.

Tinora's Paul Westrick was a double individual winner, capturing the 1600 run (4:47.05) and 800 run (2:05.68) and Edgerton's Carter Herman won the 110 hurdles (15.30) and 300 hurdles (40.40). Wayne Trace's Luke Stouffer claimed titles in both the discus (140-1-1/2) and shot put (57-7).

Other individual winners included Askins (100 dash, 11.56), Edgerton's Dakota

Burke (400 dash, 52.58), Fairview's Aspen Brubaker (3200 run, 10:38.92) and Paulding's Jack Schweller (pole vault, 10-0).

Tinora's foursome of Brennan Gentit, Logan Coy, Noah Meyer and Westrick won the 3200 relay (8:41.74) with the Rossford squad of Luis Rivera, Dylan Shannak, Jayden Martens and Samuel Simmons finishing first in the 400 relay (45.94). Wayne Trace's quartet of Hudson Myers, Eli Treece, Corbin Varner and Cole Morehead placed first in the 1600 relay (3:36.54).



Paulding's Jay Eckhart on the long jump! [More pictures at westbendnews.net](http://westbendnews.net)

In the girls meet, the green and white racked up 102 points to get past second place Fairview's 82 and third place Wayne Trace's 66. Edgerton (58), Paulding (54), Ayersville (45), Rossford (43), Hicksville (43), Lakewood Park Christian (20) and Stryker (7) completed the list of schools.

Ayersville senior Ally Schindler took the girls most valuable participant award, recording first place finishes in the 100 dash (13.35) and long jump (15-11-1/2) while taking second in the 400 dash. Schindler was also part of the Lady Pilots first place 800 relay team (1:53.90) that included Jazlyn Sheets, Ella Killgallon and Brooklyn Michel.

Paulding's Kayleigh Dunham was a double winner in

the 100 hurdles (17.30) and 300 hurdles (50.93) while Tinora's Lauren Sattler took the 1600 run (5:26.36) and 3200 run (11:40.65).



Fairview sophomore Aubrey Hammer takes a leap in the long jump competition. [More pictures at westbendnews.net](http://westbendnews.net)

Wayne Trace's Caroline Winans and Miley Jacobs tied at 9-8 to set a new meet record in the pole vault with Winans finishing first on a tiebreaker. Winans also claimed a first place finish in the 400 dash (1:03.14).

The remaining winners included Rossford's Mia DeBortoli (200 dash, 26.95), Lakewood Park's Sophia Haslett (800 run, 2:34.10), Edgerton's Gretchen Keppler (discus, 107-1-1/2), Fairview's Kelly Crites (high jump, 5-0) and Hicksville's Hayden Neidhardt (shot put, 36-8-1/2).

Fairview's 3200 relay team of Chyenne Zeedyk, Chloe Panico, Lillian Rabe and Autumn Becker took first (10:32.72) with the Rossford foursome of Unique Smith, DeBortoli, Mariah Clark and Maggie McCartt winning the 400 relay (53.71). In the 1600 relay, Wayne Trace's quartet of Careen Winans, Madison Gurney, Bethany Miller and Caroline Winans claimed first place (4:21.66).

PATRIOT RELAYS AT HERITAGE HIGH SCHOOL

The Lady Bulldogs Track & Field team finished team runners-up at the Patriot Relays hosted by Heritage High School. Individual Champions were J'NQE Jackson (100 Meter Dash and 100 Meter Hurdles) and Makenna Dommer (Shot Put & Discus). Relay Champions were the 4x100 Meter Relay team of Heaven Gardner, Madeline Graves, Mi'Angel Jordan-Colter, and Annika Koepke; the 4x200 Meter Relay team of J'NQE Jackson, Madeline Graves, Annika Koepke, and Mi'Angel Jordan-Colter; and the Sprint Medley team of Heaven Gardner, Mi'Angel Jordan-Colter, J'NQE Jackson, and Madeline Graves.



Aaron Hoffer scored his 300th career point at Patriot Relays. [Photo by Melissa Amstutz](http://westbendnews.net)

The boys' Track & Field Team were the champions of the Patriot Relays hosted by Heritage High School. Individual Champions were Latrevion Bates (100 Meter Dash), Aaron Hoffer (110 Meter Hurdles), and Kevion Mitchell (Long Jump). Relay Champions were the 4x100 Meter Relay team of Kevin Nichols, Latrevion Bates, Kevion Mitchell, and Aaron Hoffer; the 4x200 Meter Relay team of Alex Hoffer, Aaron Hoffer, Latrevion Bates, and Calvin Dobson; and the Sprint Medley team of Kevin Nichols, Latrevion Bates, Alex Hoffer, and Aaron Hoffer.

Individual Runners-up were John Bussard (Shot Put and Discus) and the 4x1600 Meter Relay team of Bryan Garcia, Orion McGlaughn, Ian Amstutz, and Aidan Ackels; the 4x400 Meter Relay team of Aaron Jackson, Alex Hoffer, Kevion Mitchell, and Calvin Dobson; the Distance Medley team of Aidan Ackels, Ian Amstutz, Orion McGlaughn, and Bryan Garcia; and the 4x800 Meter Relay team of Tristan Williams, Aaron Jackson, Austin Noble, and Bryan Garcia.

Congratulations to Aaron Hoffer for scoring his 300th Career Point.

APACHES SHUT DOWN PANTHER OFFENSE

SHERWOOD - Host Fairview jumped out to a 3-0 early in the contest and never looked back as the Apaches defeated visiting Paulding 4-1 in Green Meadows Conference baseball action Tuesday.

The black and gold scored once in the first and picked up two more runs in the third to jump out to a 3-0 advantage.

After Paulding got one run in the fourth, the Apaches

ARCHERS NIP ACES



Hicksville senior Rylen Bassett slams the ball down the first base line to outfield, earning a triple and picking up an RBI, with Antwerp's Riley Smith anticipating the catch. [More pictures at westbendnews.net](http://westbendnews.net)



Antwerp's Teeghun Marlin, junior, cracks the ball to right center, driving in a Aiden Lichty, and Derek Hines, on a double in the sixth inning. [More pictures at westbendnews.net](http://westbendnews.net)

ANTWERP - In a Green Meadows Conference baseball battle, the Antwerp Archers scored twice in the bottom of the sixth to post a 3-2 win over Hicksville Tuesday evening.

Trailing 2-1 entering the bottom of the sixth, Aiden Lichty walked to start the inning for the blue and white before Derek Hines doubled to put runners at second and third.

Teeghun Marlin then recorded a one-out double that scored both Lichty and Hines to put Antwerp on top 3-2.

Hicksville then went down in order in the seventh as the Archers wrapped up the victory.

Reid Lichty tossed the complete game to get the win for the blue and white, striking out ten Hicksville hitters

while allowing five hits, two runs (one earned) and two walks.

Aidan Pollick took the loss for the Aces, surrendering five hits, three earned runs and one walk while fanning five in six innings of work.

Marlin finished the night with a single and a double for Antwerp, driving in the two runs. Aiden Lichty scored once and picked up a run batted in for the blue and white with Reid Lichty singling and scoring once.

Parker Bassett singled and tripled for Hicksville while driving in one run with Austin Sanders and Aidan Pollick both singling. Rylen Bassett also had a triple and drove in one run for the Aces with Eli Lawrence and Carter Sheets both touching home plate.

completed the scoring with a single run in the sixth to set the final at 4-1.

Cole Mack was the difference on the mound for the black and gold, tossing the complete game surrendering just five hits and one earned run with four strikeouts.

Paulding's Greyson Harder tossed a solid contest as well, allowing six hits, four runs (one earned) and one walk with six strikeouts in six innings of work.

Patrick Paholak had a pair of doubles and drove in the lone Panther run with Casey

Agler scoring the only Paulding run while singling twice. Kane Jones had a single for the maroon and white as well.

Logan Olinger topped Fairview with two singles while scoring once and driving in one run. Drayden Grinnell-Dennis and Mack both singled and picked up a run batted in with Breaven Williams singling and scoring once. Elijah Arend also had a single for the black and gold while Jude Shiner and Noah Shiner each scored one time for Fairview.

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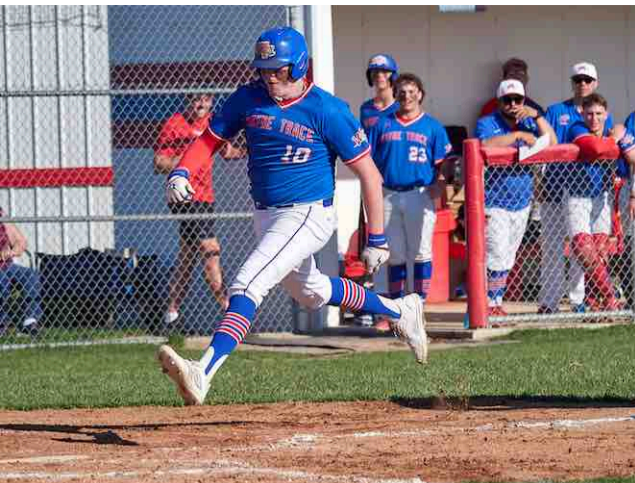
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RAIDERS OUTSCORE COUGARS



Wayne Trace Senior Cooper Wenzlick scores on a base hit by sophomore Carter Clemens. More pictures at westbendnews.net

HAVILAND – In a high-scoring affair at the home of the Raiders, Wayne Trace held off visiting Van Wert for an 11-9 victory in non-league high school baseball action Monday.

The visiting Cougars scored twice in the first and five times in the second to open a quick 7-1 lead but Wayne Trace answered with five runs of its own in the bottom of the second to get within 7-6.

After the Raiders plated three more runs in the third for a 9-7 advantage, the red, white and blue added a single run in the fourth for a 10-7 lead.

Van Wert plated two runs in the sixth with Wayne Trace getting one to wrap up the 11-9 victory.

Kyle Forrer, Cooper Wenzlick, Carter Clemens and Tyson Gerber all had two hits for the Raider offense, which got single hits from Cale Winans, Tyler Head, Brady Miller and Tucker Antoine. Gerber and Head both scored twice for the Raiders while Wenzlick drove in three runs with Antoine and Breven Anderson picking up two runs batted in each.

Brylen Parker topped Van Wert with two hits while Kaden Shaffer, Briston Wise, Hayden Davis, Samuel Houg, Case Stegaman, Kaydin Doner and Nate Gearhart finished with one apiece. Parker, Wise, Stegaman and Gearhart all scored twice for the Cougars while Parker drove in four runs and Davis picked up two runs batted in.

LADY RAIDERS ROLL OVER WILDCATS



Raider Junior Allison Noggle gets the out after shortstop Ava Zartman picks up the ground ball and throws it to first, helping to give Wayne Trace a solid win over Miller City! More pictures at westbendnews.net

HAVILAND – Wayne Trace plated eight runs in the first and cruised the rest of the way to an 11-1 victory over Miller City Monday night in high school softball action.

The red, white and blue scored once in the second to push the lead to 9-0 before adding two more in the third for an 11-0 lead. Miller City's lone run came in the fourth inning.

Logen Bland picked up the win on the mound for Wayne Trace, throwing the five-inning complete game allowing six hits, an unearned run and one walk with four strikeouts.

a home run at the plate for the Lady Raiders to go along with three runs batted in and a run scored. Paige Alber also homered for Wayne Trace, scoring twice and driving in two runs, with Brenna Parker doubling, scoring once and driving in two runs.

Tianna Sinn singled and scored once for the red, white and blue while Katie Anna Baumle doubled and picked up one run batted in. Allison Noggle and Raegan McGarvey each scored one run for Wayne Trace with McGarvey and Olivia Franklin both driving in one run.

Madalyn Erford and Isabel Reyna each had two singles for Miller City while Bailey David and Isabelle Rieman singled once apiece. Avery Ruhe scored the Wildcat run and David picked up the run batted in.

MACK BLANKS ARCHERS

Cole Mack scattered three hits and three walks in throwing a complete-game shutout to lead the Fairview Apaches

to a 4-0 victory over Antwerp in high school baseball play on Tuesday.

Mack struck out seven Archer batters in pitching the black and gold to the victory.

Fairview scored all four runs in the second, opening the scoring on a two-run double by Jesse Coolman. Zane Timbrook also had a two-run double for the Apaches as the black and gold cruised the rest of the way to the victory.

Teeghun Marlin suffered the loss for Antwerp, allowing four hits and two walks along with four earned runs.

Riley Smith had two singles to lead the Archer offense while Aiden Lichty picked up a single as well.

Jude Shininger and Breaven Williams each had a pair of singles for Fairview with Shininger also scoring a run. Drayden Grinnell-Dennis and Elijah Arend each singled and scored while Coolman scored once for the Apaches.

NEW HAVEN TRACK & FIELD RESULTS

The Lady Bulldogs Track & Field team finished team runners-up at the Patriot Relays hosted by Heritage High School. Individual Champions were J'NQE Jackson (100 Meter Dash and 100 Meter Hurdles) and Makenna Dommer (Shot Put & Discus). Relay Champions were the 4x100 Meter Relay team of Heaven Gardner, Madeline Graves, Mi'Angel Jordan-Colter, and Annika Koepke; the 4x200 Meter Relay team of J'NQE Jackson, Madeline Graves, Annika Koepke, and Mi'Angel Jordan-Colter; and the Sprint Medley team of Heaven Gardner, Mi'Angel Jordan-Colter, J'NQE Jackson, and Madeline Graves.

The boys' Track & Field Team were the champions of the Patriot Relays hosted by Heritage High School. Individual Champions were Latrevion Bates (100 Meter Dash), Aaron Hoffer (110 Meter Hurdles), and Kevion Mitchell (Long Jump). Relay Champions were the 4x100 Meter Relay team of Kevin Nichols, Latrevion Bates, Kevion Mitchell, and Aaron Hoffer; the 4x200 Meter Relay team of Alex Hoffer, Aaron Hoffer, Latrevion Bates, and Calvin Dobson; and the Sprint Medley team of Kevin Nichols, Latrevion Bates, Alex Hoffer, and Aaron Hoffer.

Individual Runners-up were John Bussard (Shot Put and Discus) and the 4x1600 Meter Relay team of Bryan Garcia, Orion McGlaughn, Ian Amstutz, and Aidan Ackels; the 4x400 Meter Relay team of Aaron Jackson, Alex Hoffer, Kevion Mitchell, and Calvin Dobson; the Distance Medley team of Aidan Ackels, Ian Amstutz, Orion McGlaughn, and Bryan Garcia; and the 4x800 Meter Relay team of Tristan Williams, Aaron Jackson, Austin Noble, and Bryan Garcia.

Congratulations to Aaron Hoffer for scoring his 300th Career Point.

PANTHERS PICK UP PAIR OF WINS AT AYERSVILLE TOURNAMENT

The Paulding softball team took part in the Ayersville tournament on Saturday where the Lady Panthers recorded two wins on the day.

Wayne Trace also participated in the event with the

WOODLAN DOUBLE HEADER SATURDAY



On Saturday, April 13 Woodlan takes both of the double header against Prairie Heights. The first game ended with Woodlan in the lead 6-2, and the second gave similar results with the score being 12-5. Pictured here is Woodlan freshman James Goldin rolls into home, touches the plate as the catcher drops the ball, giving Goldin the run! More pictures at westbendnews.net

Raiders splitting their pair of games.

The maroon and white opened the day with an 11-1 win over Continental, getting a home run and double from Brooklynn Bakle while Cadence Schwab added a double and a triple. Mariah Klopfenstein and Jocelynn Parrett both singled and doubled as well for the Lady Panthers with Maci Kauser, Tia Mendez and Riley Stork posting one hit each.

Olivia Breier scored three times for the Lady Panthers while Kauser and Bakle both touched home plate twice. Bakle, Parrett and Schwab drove in two runs each for Paulding.

The Lady Panthers also recorded a 14-5 win over the Lady Raiders with Schwab doubling twice, scoring three times and driving in two runs. Mariah Klopfenstein and Jocelynn Parrett singled twice apiece and Bakle hit a home run while picking up three runs batted in.

Maci Kauser scored four times for Paulding with Riley Stork and Samantha Leal picking up a single each.

Tianna Sinn topped Wayne Trace with a single and a double while Paige Alber posted two singles. Katie Anna Baumle scored twice for the Lady Raiders while Alber, Morgan Elliott and Sam Williams also touched home plate.

Wayne Trace slipped past Napoleon for a 1-0 victory in the opener for the two schools.

Kaitlin Slade had a solo home run in the bottom of the first to generate the game's only run. Raegan McGarvey got the win on the mound for the red, white and blue, tossing a complete game while striking out 13 and scattering three hits and one walk.

LADY WARRIORS CHALK UP 2 WINS



Senior Mya Jones line drives the ball to the pitcher, sending runner Sophia Martin to score, and Jones earns first base! More pictures at westbendnews.net

In Game 1 on Saturday, April 13th, Abby Horn led the Lady Warriors to a 5-4 win over Prairie Heights. Mya Jones and Jade Lichty went 2/3 at the plate to lead the offense.

In Game 2, Alyssa Harvey went 2/3 with 3 RBIs and a

homer. It was a "come from behind" 8-6 win over Prairie Heights. Tori Crozier went 3/3 with a triple, Jade Lichty 2/3 with a double and Olivia Roney also smashed a double to help bring the runs in for the win.

(Continued from Page 1) with a six-run fifth.

Kyle Forrer had two singles and scored twice for Wayne Trace with Breven Anderson singling once and driving in two runs. Cooper Wenzlick finished with a double and a run batted in for the red, white and blue while Carter Clemens scored once and singled once.

Tyson Gerber touched home plate twice and singled

once while Tanner Laukhuf scored twice and drove in one run.

Braylon Smith, Jacob Siebeneck and Jack Stechschulte all had one single for Kalida with Adam Bockrath doubling and scoring the lone Wildcat run.

Ethan Wehri gave up eight hits, six runs (five earned) and one walk with one strikeout in four innings on the mound for Kalida.

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THE LEFT TURN



Cap Henry gets win 17 at Attica. Action Photo's Ohio

By: Ron Burt

Attica Raceway Park's defending 410-Sprint champion got off to a rough start two weeks ago on opening night, with a bad crash. He came back last Saturday with a win in the Core and Main Nationals presented by Erie Blacktop and Smith Paving. Henry also pocketed \$6,000.00 for the win. The fans watched him put on a dominating performance in the Jeff Ward Motorsports #33W. He led all 30 laps of the A-main.

Cale Thomas made an early challenge at the start of the feature and Emerson Axsom took a shot, but the track champion had too much for them and the rest of the field. Cap waved the checkered flag for the 17th time in his division, placing him seventh all-time on the 410 win list at Attica Raceway Park. Behind Cap Henry was Emerson Axsom who started ninth and worked his way up to second.

Cap waved the checkered flag for the 17th time in his division, placing him seventh all-time on the 410 win list at Attica Raceway Park. Behind Cap Henry was Emerson Axsom who started ninth and worked his way up to second. Findlay area driver Greg Wilson was 3rd followed by Trey Jacobs and Zane DeVault to round out the top five. Henry didn't have much time for rest. He and his team had to load up and head to Red Dirt Raceway in Meeker Oklahoma for a Tuesday night race with the High Limit Sprint Series. He will be driving #2 for Marc Daily Racing.



Jamie Miller got upside-down Saturday. Action Photo's Ohio

Jimmy McGrath finally got the monkey off his back winning the 305-Sprint feature. Jimmies had many 2nd place finishes and led many laps in the division. This was his first ever Sprint Car win. He led all 25 laps of the Fremont Fence feature. It wasn't easy for McGrath as many cautions and red flags caused several restarts with one caution handing him back the lead after Jamie Miller had just passed him. Later in the race Miller flipped his car putting him out of the race. Behind McGrath, to round out the top five was Steve



Jimmy McGrath gets first 305-Sprint Car win. Action Photo's Ohio

Rando, Brandon Moore, Tyler Shullick and John Ivy. Following last Saturday's rainout at Waynesfield, the 2024 opening night for the USAC Midwest Thunder Midgets is set for Friday, April 11th. I hope next week to have results from MRP Raceway Park near Cincinnati.

The following night, Saturday April 12th the USAC Silver Crown Division will take to the Toledo Speedways, half mile high banks. It will be the famed Rollie Beale Classic. Fifteen drivers have committed to running the full 2024 season schedule. Many of these top drivers race the sprint and midget series. The Silver Crown cars will have a 14 race schedule this year. Most eyes Saturday will be on Kody Swanson. He has racked up seven driving titles and 40 victories on his illustrious USAC Silver Crown resume, both all-time records. However, the 2024 season has presented him with an unanticipated obstacle unlike any other he's ever faced. Swanson is coming off a major foot injury and multiple surgeries during an off-season accident away from the racetrack. His return thus far has been so far, so good. In a 500 Sprint Car Tour race last Sunday at Anderson (Ind.) Speedway, Swanson finished second. He's back with the Doran-Binks Racing team in 2024 with whom he collected three wins and six poles a year ago in route to a series runner-up points finish. He will face top USAC drivers that include Justin Grant, C.J. Leary, Logan Seavey, Davey Hamilton Jr. and two excellent female drivers, Kaylee Bryson, and Taylor Ferns.

Until next week, keep your wheels down. Ron out! ohiosportsblitz@yahoo.com

APACHES, RAIDERS SPLIT TRACK MEET

The Fairview girls and the Wayne Trace boys picked up dual meet track victories on Tuesday in action at Fairview High School.

The Lady Apaches posted a 74-48 win over the Raiders while the Wayne Trace boys defeated Fairview 70-54.

Caroline Winans was a triple winner for the red, white and blue, capturing the 400 dash (1:03.60), 200 dash (29.20) and pole vault (9-0).

Other victors for the Lady Raiders included Careen Winans (800 run, 2:37.00), Libby Meraz (3200 run, 17:46.00) and Kathleen Stoller (shot put, 30-3).

Wayne Trace's 1600 relay team of Careen Winans, Amber Stoller, Bethany Miller and Caroline Winans took first in 4:21.60.

Fairview captured the other three relay races. Chyenne Zeedyk, Chloe Panico, Lillian Rabe and Autumn Becker won the 3200 relay in 11:09.00 while Aubrey Hammer, Kelly Crites, Abby Smith and Leviah Hull combined to capture the 800 relay in 1:54.60. Hammer, Smith, Kauffman and Hull won the 400 relay with a time of 55.80 seconds.

Individual winners for the black and gold were Kenna Kauffman (100 hurdles, 17.10) and 300 hurdles, 52.60), Leviah Hull (100 dash, 13.70), Zeedyk (1600 run, 5:56.00), Emma Zeedyk (discus, 88-5), Hammer (long jump, 12-7) and Crites

(high jump, 4-10). Winners for the Raider boys included Ryan Parker (110 hurdles, 22.70), Eli Treece (400 dash, 53.20), Reece Olwin (300 hurdles, 47.30), Cole Morehead (800 run, 2:14.80), Corbin Varner (high jump, 5-4), Graiden Troth (pole vault, 7-6), Landen Foltz (discus, 146-0) and Luke Stouffer (shot put, 57-7).

The quartet of Hudson Myers, Treece, Corbin Varner and Morehead won the 1600 relay with a time of 3:43.40.

Fairview's boys took first in the 3200 relay with the quartet of Kyle Rabe, Carson Sims, Aspen Brubaker and Braylin Snyder posting a time of 9:02.00. The foursome of Jon Huffman, Gavin Meade, Xavier Shining and Kale Salyers took first in the 800 relay (1:37.40) while Shining, Meade, William Zeedyk and Salyers combined to capture the 400 relay (46.80).

Kale Salyers (100 dash, 11.80 and 200 dash, 25.40), Rabe (1600 run, 5:01.00), Zeedyk (long jump, 17-11-3/4) and Connor Spencer (3200 run, 12:28.00) were victorious for the Apaches.

LADY WARRIORS PICK UP WIN OVER BRUINS

Woodlan scored nine times over the first four innings and went on to post a 10-3 victory over Fort Wayne Northrop last week in high school softball action.

The Lady Bruins struck first, getting a single run in the top of the first, before Woodlan answered with a pair of runs in the bottom of the frame.

After each team scored once in the second, the Lady Warriors expanded the margin in the bottom of the third. An Alyssa Harvey single scored Victoria Crozier to make it 4-2 Woodlan before Lillian Riley singled to plate Harvey for a 5-2 Warrior advantage.

Woodlan widened the gap further in the bottom of the fourth.

With two outs, Crozier doubled to score Jade Lichty to push the lead to 6-2 before the Warriors seized complete control two batters later. Harvey walked to put runners at first and second before Riley singled and drove in Crozier. On the same play, a Northrop error allowed both Harvey and Riley to score as well in extending the Woodlan lead to 9-2.

The Lady Warriors made it 10-2 with one run in the bottom of the sixth before Northrop scored in the top of the seventh to set the final at 10-3.

Crozier had a single, double and home run for Woodlan with three runs scored and two runs batted in while Riley posted two singles, drove in two runs and scored once. Lichty scored twice and tripled for the Lady Warriors.

Harvey and Abby Horn both had a single for Woodlan with Harvey scoring twice and posting one run batted in. Horn and Mya Jones touched home plate once each for the Lady Warriors.

Horn recorded the win for Woodlan, tossing a complete game allowing five hits, three runs (two earned) and three walks with six strikeouts.

ECLIPSE WATCHERS CAME EARLY AND STAYED LATE



An Ohio State Highway Patrol helicopter with the total eclipse.

The message from state officials was clear: Come early, stay late for last week's solar eclipse. New data shows that most people did just that, avoiding the post-eclipse gridlock other states experienced.

"I'm grateful to all our state and local partners who spent more than two years planning for this event. Because of their hard work, millions of Ohioans and visitors witnessed the awe-inspiring eclipse and enjoyed a fun day here in the heart of it all," said Governor Mike DeWine.

Ohio Department of Transportation Travel data from the Ohio Department of Transportation shows traffic volumes were up 12.8% on Sunday, fell by 4.4% the day of the eclipse, and increased again by 15.8% on Tuesday.

The biggest increase in traffic on Monday came on State Route 31 north of Marysville where traffic was up by 71.7%, US 35 west of Chillicothe with a 67.4% increase in traffic, and SR 14 west of SR 165 to the Pennsylvania border saw a 42.8% increase.

Within the path of totality, traffic on US 30 from Van Wert to Canton was up 13%, including a 53.4% increase west of US 224 near Van Wert. Traffic on US 23 between Chillicothe and Marion was up 11.5% with the biggest jump around Marion where traffic increased by 21.4%.

The state's interstates also saw increased traffic. I-71 north of US 30 saw a 21.5% bump in traffic volume, I-75 in Perrysburg was up 22.6%, and I-70 saw a 15.7% increase between I-270 and US 42. Traffic on I-74 between Cincinnati and Indiana saw traffic surge by 14.8%.

On Tuesday, the entire I-70 corridor saw an 11.8% increase in traffic, the biggest

bump in the Cambridge area where traffic volumes were up by more than 20%. Traffic on I-77 was up 11.1%, including a 20% increase in traffic south of Canton.

"This data shows that Ohioans and visitors did what we asked of them, and it worked to prevent a huge surge of traffic directly following the eclipse. I also commend our crews for their efforts ahead of, during, and after the eclipse. It really paid off," said ODOT Director Jack Marchbanks.

The data comes from more than 200 continuous traffic count stations across the state. Data was compared to the average traffic volumes observed on Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays in April 2023.

Ohio Turnpike Traffic volume across the Ohio Turnpike - a 241-mile toll road designated as Interstate 80, I-90 and I-76 - increased during the days leading up to, during, and after the total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024.

The highest traffic volume increases on the Ohio Turnpike occurred on Monday, April 8, with 156,812 trips and Tuesday, April 9, with 162,381 trips. The Ohio Turnpike averages about 139,000 trips per day.

"I commend our staff and troopers from the Ohio State Highway Patrol for their meticulous planning in preparation of the solar eclipse," said Ferzan M. Ahmed, P.E., executive director of the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission in Berea, Ohio. "As expected, there were traffic backups, especially east-bound, as travelers were returning home. The unusually heavy traffic was managed safely and as well as can be expected. Message boards were used to prevent motorists from stopping on the shoulder."

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ders and to slow down and to expect stopped traffic."

To accommodate the influx of travelers into the state, the Ohio Turnpike's service plazas and participating vendors increased their hours of operation. Gasoline and diesel fuel inventories were increased.

"Many travelers indicated they chose the Ohio Turnpike's 14 service plazas as their viewing destinations for the eclipse because of ample parking, restaurant choices, and restrooms," Ahmed added. "The parking lots were full. Our customers were all safely situated at the various service plazas to view the eclipse."

Ohio State Highway Patrol During the recent solar eclipse, the Ohio State Highway Patrol heightened its operations to safeguard both Ohioans and visitors. From Friday, April 5, through Tuesday, April 9, troopers conducted 16,285 traffic stops, marking a 27% increase from the same time frame the prior week. Additionally, troopers assisted 2,066 motorists by helping change tires, providing directions, and aiding motorists out of gas. Despite the increase in motorists on Ohio roads, provisional data shows that troopers also saw a 6% decrease in the number of crashes investigated compared to the same time frame the prior week thanks to the collaborative efforts of everyone involved.

"The success of this event was made possible not only by the dedicated efforts of our Patrol personnel and fellow safety service partners but also by the responsible actions of the motoring public," said Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol Superintendent. "Together, we ensured a safe and memorable experience for all."

The Patrol took a proactive approach to manage the increased traffic volume during the solar eclipse. These mea-

asures included increased staffing, strategic utilization of the Patrol's Aviation Section, and close collaboration with state and local partners. These efforts were instrumental in ensuring compliance with all traffic laws and maintaining high safety standards. The Patrol's commitment to enhancing the well-being of all travelers throughout the state remains unwavering.

PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Criminal/Traffic Disposition Report

Scott S. Smith, Toledo, OH; Drug paraphernalia, Case dismissed per state, Costs to defendant; OVI/under influence, Pled no contest, found guilty, 90 days in jail, 87 days suspended, Operator license suspended from 9/30/23 to 9/30/24, May attend DIP in lieu of 3 days jail, Standard probation, Evaluation with Westwood, 20 hours community service, Risk assessment, All contraband shall be forfeited/destroyed, Online class, State shall not pursue felony charges; Driving under suspension/Operator license forfeiture, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay costs; Marked lanes, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay costs; Seat belt/drive, Count D dismissed; Distracted driving, Count E dismissed

Joshua K. Clark, Paulding, OH; Criminal damaging; Bench trial held; Defendant found guilty; Fines and costs assessed; 60 days jail, suspended

Amy L. Davis, Oakwood, OH; Disorderly conduct with persistence; Pled no contest, found guilty; 30 days jail, 29 jails suspended; Fines and costs to be taken from bond; Defendant shall maintain general good behavior

Eric B. Bidlack, Seat belt/drive, Guilty; Case was waived by defendant; Driving/texting, Guilty, Defendant completed course, Defendant to pay costs

Arwinder S. Virk, Essex, ON; Driving/texting; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Felicia Thomas, Indianapolis, IN; Turn signals, Pled no contest, found guilty, Proof of insurance provided, Defendant to pay fines and costs; False statement, Pled no contest, found guilty, 3 days jail, Defendant to pay fines

Terry T. Rivers, Warren, MI; Theft; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior; Complete 40 hours com-

munity service; Pay \$560 in restitution

Jason T. Aughenbaugh, Indianapolis, IN; Permit violation; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Rochella Budd, Van Wert, OH; Child restraint; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Shukri H. Hassan, Saint Paul, MN; Driving/texting; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Brian S. Gorrell, Paulding, OH; Driving/texting; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Enock Tilbil, Detroit, MI; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Chad E. Kees, Antwerp, OH; Driving under suspension, Count A dismissed; Seat belt/drive, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant

Robert T. Nestell, Washington, MI; Permit violation; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Tyler J. Yarrison, Fostoria, MI; Driving/texting; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Diane M. Madry, Latty, OH; Theft, Count A dismissed; Criminal trespassing, Guilty, 30 days jail suspended, Defendant to pay all fines and costs, Maintain general good behavior, Placed on standard probation, Restitution joint and several with 24-CRB-09, Complete 40 hours community service

Adam D. Madry, Latty, OH; Theft, Count A dismissed; Criminal trespassing, Guilty, 30 days jail suspended, Defendant to pay all fines and costs, Maintain general good behavior, Placed on standard probation, Restitution joint and several with 24-CRB-08, Complete 40 hours community service

Brandon N. Decker, Grover Hill, OH; Strangulation; Domestic violence; Bindover; Defendant has been indicted; Cases shall be bound over

Anthony W. Prater, Akron, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Bryan J. Dunn, Jr., Saginaw, MI; Driving/texting; Case was waived by defendant

Wesley W. Bowman, Paulding, OH; No operator license; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs

John M. Vanorman, Montgomery, TX; Permit violation; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Navdeep Singh, Fresno, CA; Driving/texting; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Robert P. Swope, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

RAIDERS HOLD ON FOR WIN OVER RAMS

In Tuesday night's Green Meadows Conference baseball opener, Wayne Trace appeared to be in control and cruising with a five-run lead entering the bottom of the sixth.

However, Tinora had other ideas as the Rams made things very interesting in the seventh before the Raiders held on to record the 7-6 victory over the green and white.

The red, white and blue scored three times in the first before Tinora picked up two runs in the bottom half as Wayne Trace recorded a 3-2 lead at the end of one frame.

After the Raiders picked up an additional run in the second, the red, white and blue expanded the lead with another run in the fourth and two more in the top of the sixth to extend the margin to 7-2.

Tinora, though, was far from done.

The Rams got one back in the sixth to make it 7-3 before plating three runners in the seventh as Wayne Trace escaped a two-out jam to hold on for the 7-6 win.

Breven Anderson picked up the win for the red, white and blue, giving up seven hits, six runs (four earned) and two walks with six strikeouts in six innings on the mound. Cooper Wenzlick entered to strike the Rams out in order and pick up the save, preserving the Wayne Trace win.

Wenzlick also had a home run, scored once and drove in three runs for the Raider offense while Tucker Antoine singled twice, scored once and picked up three runs batted in.

Tyson Gerber chipped in a pair of singles while Anderson, Cale Winans, Carter Clemens and Tyler Head added singles as well. Winans, Clemens, Brady Miller, Head and Laukhuf scored as well for the Raiders with Anderson getting a run batted in.

Hunter Bostelman led Tinora with two singles, a home run, two runs scored and two runs batted in. Connor Wolfrum, Parker Hancock, Alec Schaublin and Rylee Peters all had a single for the Rams as well.

Ayden Moser and Parker Hancock scored once each for Tinora with Kadyn Radzik touching home plate twice. Schaublin picked up two runs batted in for the green and white while Wolfrum picked up a run batted in.

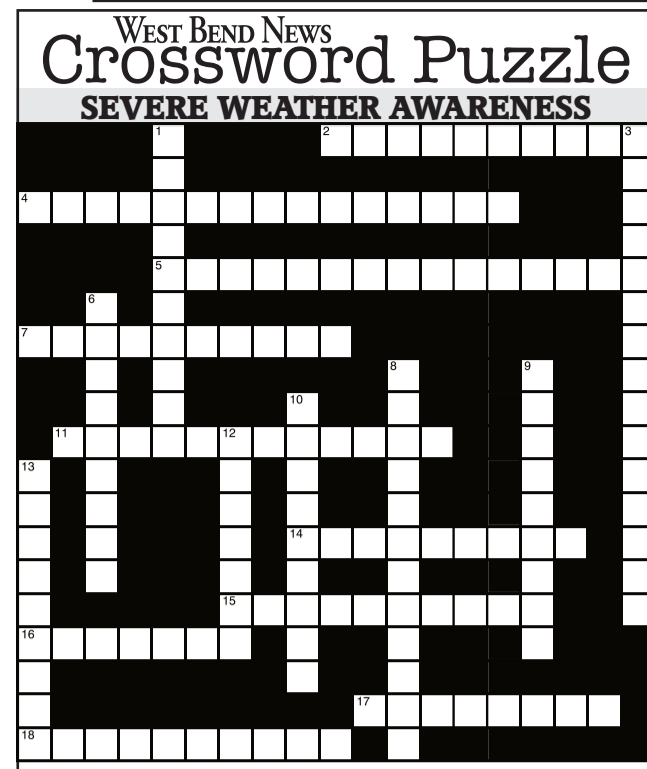
Schaublin suffered the loss for the Rams, surrendering eight hits, seven runs (six earned), two strikeouts and two walks in five innings on the mound for Tinora.

LADY RAMS ROUT RAIDERS

Tinora scored five times in the first and dominated the rest of the way in rolling to a 13-1 win over Wayne Trace in the Green Meadows Conference softball opener for both schools Tuesday evening.

Scylea Zolman controlled the contest for the Rams, limiting the Lady Raiders to four hits in the contest on the mound while Zolman also ripped a pair of home runs and drove in three runs for the Tinora offense.

Zolman ended the night with eight strikeouts while



- ACROSS**
2. A rise in sea level due to the combination of low pressure from a storm and strong onshore winds, often causing coastal flooding.
4. A series of tornadoes occurring within a relatively short time and in close geographic proximity.
5. Issued when sustained winds of 40 mph or greater are expected for at least an hour or gusts of 58 mph or greater.
7. A line of thunderstorms, often with a strong cold front, that can produce severe weather.
11. Issued when sustained winds of 31 to 39 mph or gusts of 46 to 57 mph are expected.
14. The leading edge of a cooler mass of air, often causing abrupt temperature drops and stormy weather.
15. Damage to property, crops, or vehicles caused by large hailstones falling during a storm.
16. A rapidly rotating column of air extending from a thunderstorm to the ground.
17. A prolonged period of excessively hot weather, often accompanied by high humidity.
18. A localized, intense downdraft of air from a thunderstorm, often causing damaging winds.
- DOWN**
1. Sudden, rapid flooding caused by heavy rainfall, typically in a short period.
3. Notifications issued by local authorities or the National Weather Service to warn the public of imminent severe weather threats.
6. A large, powerful tropical storm with high winds and heavy rainfall.
8. A region in the central United States where tornadoes are most frequent.
9. A measure of how hot it feels when relative humidity is factored in with the actual air temperature.
10. The cooling effect of wind on the human body, making it feel colder than the actual air temperature.
12. A widespread, long-lived, straight-line windstorm associated with severe thunderstorms.
13. A weather event where large chunks of ice fall from the sky, often causing damage.

solution on page 11

THIS PUZZLE BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



Paulding County Hospital • 1035 West Wayne St. • Paulding, OH 45879
Antwerp Regional Health Ctr • 608 Erie Street • Antwerp, OH, 45813
Oakwood Medical Center • 109 N. First Street • Oakwood, OH 45873
Payne Medical Center • 301 South Main Street • Payne, OH 45880

allowing four hits, one walk and one run to record the victory. Logen Bland suffered the loss for Wayne Trace, giving up eight hits, seven earned runs and one walk while striking out one in two innings of work.

Tegan Norden added two singles and a double along with scoring twice and driving in two runs for Tinora. Madison Spangler chipped in a single and a home run to go along with two runs scored and a run batted in for the Lady Rams.

Christina Myers posted two singles, a run scored and

a run batted in for the green and white with Paige Gamby doubling twice, scoring once and driving in three runs. Tanae Smith recorded a double and scored twice for the Defiance County squad, which also got a single and two runs scored by Mickey Starkey.

Kaitlin Slade picked up a single and a home run for Wayne Trace to provide the Raiders' lone run of the contest. Tianna Sinn added a single and Bland finished with a double to aid the red, white and blue offense.

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE

PROBATE COURT OF PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO
ESTATE OF TERESA L. RICHHART, DECEASED
Case No. 20231040-A
FILED
Paulding County Probate Court.
APR 11 2024
PROBATE COURT PAULDING COUNTY, OH

A hearing on the complaint will be held on the 11th day of June, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Persons knowing any reason why the sale should not be granted should appear and inform the court.

"TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF TERESA L. RICHHART AKA TERESA RICHHART, DECEASED, LATE OF 512 WEST RIVER STREET, VILLAGE OF ANTWERP, PAULDING COUNTY PROBATE COURT CASE NO. 20231040.

A Complaint for Authority to Sell Decedent's Real Estate to Pay Debts has been filed in the
Judge Harvey D. Hyman

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Village of Oakwood is accepting bids on Parcels 10-17S-019-00 & 10-17S-020-00 in the Village of Oakwood.

Bidding will begin at \$8,000.00 and bids can be sent to:

Village of Oakwood, P.O. Box 457, Oakwood, OH 45873

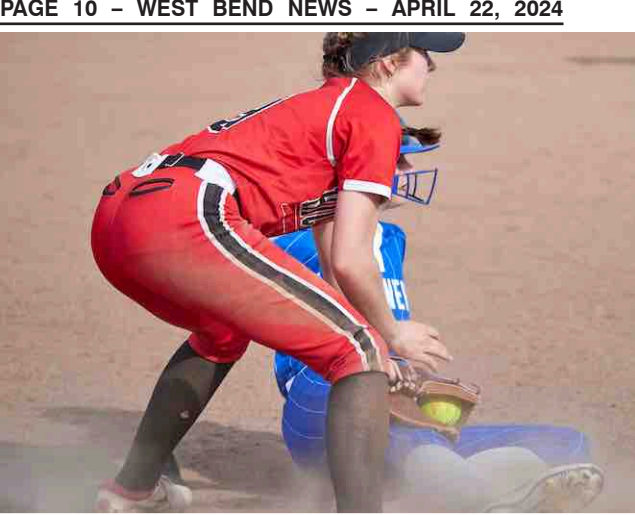
Questions directed to oakwoodvillage@bright.net

PAULDING COUNTY NOTICE OF SECOND CDBG PUBLIC HEARING

Paulding County intends to apply to the Ohio Department of Development, Office of Community Infrastructure for funding under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Community Development Program, a federally funded program administered by the state. Paulding County is eligible to apply for (1) Critical Infrastructure Grant through CDBG funding for the Program Year of 2024. Through the Critical Infrastructure Grant communities can receive up to \$500,000.00 per opening. Paulding County is also eligible to apply for (2) Projects under the (1) Allocation Grant through CDBG funding for the Program Year of 2024. Through the Allocation Grant, communities can receive up to a total of \$150,000 per program year. On January 23, 2024 the first public hearing was conducted to inform the citizens about programs administered by the Ohio Department of Development. Based on citizens input and an assessment of need by local officials, the County is considering the following CDBG activities for Program Year 2024 for the Critical Infrastructure Grant:

Location	Activity	Total Amount	CDBG Amount	National Objective
Carryall Township	Rd 275 Reconstruction	\$97,399.00	\$48,699.50	Aid low to moderate income population
Village of Antwerp	Mervin Street Reclamation	\$40,000.00	\$32,000.00	Aid low to moderate income population
Village of Paulding	Wayne Street Waterline Replacement	\$620,000.00	\$120,000	Aid low to moderate income population
Village of Payne	SR500 Sidewalk	\$295,416.00	\$275,416.00	Aid low to moderate income population

The second public hearing will be held on May 1, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., at the Paulding County Commissioner's Office, 451 McDonald Pike, Suite E Paulding, OH 45879 to give citizens adequate opportunity to review and comment on the proposed activities prior to the Commissioners choice of projects for submittal of the applications to the Office of Community Enhancement. Citizens are encouraged to attend this meeting to express views on the proposed CDBG activities. If auxiliary aids are needed (interpreter, braille or taped material, assistive listening device, or other) due to a disability, please contact Maumee Valley Planning Organization at mvpo@mvpo.org or 419-784-3882 prior to April 26, 2024 at to ensure your needs will be accommodated.



Antwerp Senior Cadence Shull slides safely into third base as Hicksville Freshman McKenna Baird attempts to get the out at third! Archers win 1-0 in seven innings on Tuesday, April 16. More pictures at westbendnews.net

ACES DOUBLE UP BOMBERS

HICKSVILLE - Lillybell Porter had three hits to lead a 13-hit Hicksville attack as the Lady Aces doubled up visiting Edon 8-4 Monday night in high school softball action. Kennedy Adams, Evy McAlexander and McKenna Rice all had a pair of hits for the Lady Aces, who got one hit each from Jaylynn Price, McKenna Baird, Taylor Slatery and Addie Sanders. Adams recorded the win on the mound for Hicksville

in a complete game effort, allowing nine hits and four earned runs with six strikeouts. Baird, Adams and McAlexander all scored twice for the Lady Aces with Porter driving in four runs. Makayla Anspaugh, Alexis Breier and Amanda Schwartz recorded two hits each for Edon with Natalie Wofford, Adison Briner and Addison Warner picking up a single hit apiece.

SENATOR MCCOLLEY ANNOUNCES DISASTER RELIEF FOR LOGAN & AUGLAIZE COUNTIES



Senator Rob McColley joins Governor Mike DeWine, Senate President Matt Huffman and Lt. Governor Jon Husted to survey the damage left by the March tornado

Senator Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) announced nearly \$4 million in disaster recovery funds will be provided to two counties hit hard by the powerful March tornado. Logan County will receive \$3.7 million and Auglaize County will receive \$187,500 for debris removal, safety and security operations, damage repair to both municipal electrical systems, and municipal buildings. "These additional resources will make a critical difference for more than 3,000 Ohioans living in the Indian Lake community and Auglaize County," said Senator McColley. "The people and businesses that have been tragically affected need our support."

The National Weather Service reported on March 14th an EF3 tornado was on the ground for more than 45 minutes. It started in Auglaize County and ended in Logan County, with wind speeds reaching 155 mph, taking the lives of three people and injuring 27. The Ohio Controlling Board approved the funds under the State Disaster Relief Program (SDRP.) The funds will be monitored by the Emergency Management Agency and the Office of Budget and Management. Watch Senator McColley and state officials respond to the tornado damage. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kd8gSEQFjrA>

WARRIORS TIE FOR SIXTH AT CHURUBUSCO

CHURUBUSCO - Woodlan's boys track team made the trip to Churubusco on Saturday to take part in the Tim Wilkins Invitational where the Warriors tied for sixth as a team. Host Churubusco won the meet with 138-1/2 points while Wabash finished second at 111 and Manchester placed third with 75-1/2 points. Jimtown took fourth with 56 followed by Garrett at 55 while Woodlan and Eastside tied for sixth with 37 points. Placers for the Warriors were June Suel (fifth, 100 dash), Grant Frecker (eighth, 400 dash), Jeremiah Troyer (fifth, 800 run and eighth, 1600 run), Ayden Malfait (eighth, 110 hurdles), Logan Ulmer (third, pole vault), Tyler Cook (fourth, pole vault) and Ryan Kline (fifth, shot put and discus). The Warrior 400 relay team of Suel, Shaiden Snyder, Garrett Hohenbrink and Jack Culler took seventh while the 1600 relay quartet of Frecker, Cook, Troyer and Snyder finished sixth. Ryan Hubbard, Brady Garrison, Nathan Culler and Troyer combined to take seventh in the 3200 relay.

BIG FOURTH LIFTS APACHES OVER PANTHERS

SHERWOOD - A four-run fourth inning proved to be the difference in Green Meadows Conference softball action Tuesday night as Fairview posted a 5-2 victory over Paulding in Defiance County. The Panthers plated single runs in the second and fourth innings, opening a 2-0 advantage, before the hosts rallied with four runs in the fourth for a 4-2 lead. Fairview completed the scoring with a single run in the fifth. Lexi Taylor had a pair of singles and scored once for the Lady Apaches with Bethany Shiner doubling once, scoring once and driving in two runs. Brooklyn Sims, Madisen Sharp and Samantha Coolman all added one hit each for Fairview. Kayla Mavis, Sims and Kortney Grinnell scored the other Fairview runs with Sharp picking up two runs batted in. Tia Mendez had a pair of doubles and scored a run for Paulding and Mariah Klopfenstein singled twice and posted a home run. Riley Stork chipped in a single for the Lady Panthers. Sydney Merritt got the win on the mound for Fairview, throwing the complete game with one strikeout while giving up five hits and two earned runs. Mendez suffered the loss, surrendering six hits, five runs (four earned) and four walks while fanning four.

DEFIANCE - Tyson Gerber and Tucker Antoine both recorded a pair of hits to lead the Wayne Trace Raiders to an 8-5 victory over host Ayersville in Green Meadows Conference baseball action Tuesday evening. Gerber singled twice and drove in two runs for the Raiders with Antoine adding a single and a double to go along with two runs batted in.

Tanner Laukhuf doubled, scored once and picked up two runs batted in as well for the red, white and blue while Carter Clemens singled once and scored twice. Cale Winans and Tyler Head finished with a double and a single, respectively. Winans, Cooper Wenzlick, Brady Miller, Head and Micah Sinn also touched home plate for the Raiders. Head also finished with one run batted in for Wayne Trace. Breven Anderson got the win on the mound for the Raiders, pitching 1-2/3 innings of perfect relief for the Raiders. Kyle Forrer recorded the save, throwing the final two innings with four strikeouts while giving up one hit. Ryne Maag had two singles for the Pilots and Carter Michel posted a single and a home run. Abe DeLano also totaled a single and a double for the Defiance County squad with Andru Barrick, Lucas Fishpaw and Kaden Booher picking up a single each. DeLano, Maag, Trenton Florence, Michel and Fishpaw scored the Ayersville runs. Michel totaled two runs batted in with Maag and Barrick both getting one.

PILOTS RALLY FOR WIN OVER WT

DEFIANCE - Ayersville rallied with a five-run seventh inning to come from behind in defeating Wayne Trace 11-10 in Green Meadows Conference softball play Tuesday evening. Kendra Waldron had a pair of singles and a home run for the Pilot offense with Ava Sigler posting a single, double and home run. Mikayla Sierra chipped in two singles and a double and Aerial Brown finished with three singles for the Defiance County squad. Mabel McGuire and Laura Pahl both had two hits for the Lady Pilots with Taylor Waldron and Allison Eldridge getting one hit apiece. Pahl also drove in three runs for Ayersville while Kendra Waldron and Sigler finished with two each. Sigler and Eldridge both scored twice for the Lady Pilots. Logen Bland and Katie Anna Baumle each recorded three hits for Wayne Trace with Ava Zartman and Kaitlin Slade finishing with two apiece. Tianna Sinn, Allison Noggle and Brenna Parker picked up the remaining Lady Raider hits. Tianna Sinn topped the red, white and blue with four runs batted in while Slade had three and Bland picked up two. Ella Crosby, Bland, Zartman and Slade all scored twice for Wayne Trace.

FORT JENNINGS - Host Fort Jennings scored all of the runs it would need in the first inning as the Musketeers blanked Antwerp 11-0 Monday in high school baseball action. The Musketeers scored four times in the bottom of the first before adding two each in the second and third frames. Fort Jennings completed the scoring with a three-run fourth. Owen Calvelage struck out six while scattering two walks and one hit to pick up the win for the Putnam County squad. Derek Hines had the lone

hit for Antwerp, a single. Calvelage, Bryce Gasser and Evan Ellerbrock all had two hits for Fort Jennings with Sam Dube, Weston Brinkman and Eli Lucke getting one hit each. Calvelage, Carson Gilchrist, Gasser, Jarron Swick and Dube scored twice each for the Musketeers with Ellerbrock also touching home plate. Ellerbrock drove in three runs while Dube picked up two runs batted in.

WARRIORS DROP DECISION TO LEO

LEO - A pair of East Allen County Schools hooked up in a non-league high school baseball contest Tuesday night with host Leo nipping visiting Woodlan 8-7. It was the host Lions who struck first, getting a single run in the first for an early 1-0 advantage. Woodlan responded in the third, plating a pair of runs for a 2-1 lead before the Warriors expanded the margin in the fourth with a quartet of runs that pushed the margin to 6-1. Leo then had an answer of its own in the bottom of the fourth, getting a trio of runs to trim the deficit to 6-4. After Woodlan scored

once in the fifth to make it 7-4, the host Lions rallied for the win with a four-run sixth to record the 8-7 victory. The winning score came via a Woodlan error that allowed Dominic Rennecker to reach and Riley Stewart to score the decisive run. Landon Ruoff had a single and a triple to lead the Leo offense with Landin Hoepfner posting a single and a double. Crew Kaylor added two singles for the Lions while Luke MacDonald, Kamden Zeisloft and Wyatt Francher picked up a single apiece. Hoepfner also scored twice for Leo and Ruoff drove in two runs for the Lions. Ruoff picked up the win for the Lions, pitching 1-2/3 innings in relief with one strikeout while allowing two hits. Stewart tossed the first 5-1/3 frames, giving up eight hits, seven runs (five earned) and one walk with seven strikeouts. Oliver Adams and Braden Smith both had a pair of singles for Woodlan while Drew Fleek picked up a triple. Gavin Sheehan and Ethan Trygg also added a single apiece for the Warriors with Clayton Rosier totaling three singles and two runs scored.

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MUSKIES BLANK ARCHERS

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TESTING, SPRING SPORTS, UPCOMING EVENTS DISCUSSED AT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Administrators updated Hicksville Board of Education members on testing, spring sports and events coming up at the March 18 board session. Board president Stephanie Mazur presided over the meeting with all board members in attendance. Matt Hoffman presented the technology department report. Elementary Principal Kirsten Coffman reported 75 children attended the kindergarten screening recently. She said there is a probability of several more joining the class in the fall, which will make this a class of approximately 85. High School Principal Aaron Hylander highlighted recent high school performances of the senior class at Coronation and all those involved with the drama department's presentation of Les Miserables. He also mentioned the senior class trip to New York City March 20-24. Superintendent Keith Countryman reported a new process for hiring which includes the entire admin team. They also are attending job fairs to reach out to prospec-

STOLLER SPEAKS TO KIWANIS ABOUT COUNTRY MAIDS



The Kiwanis Club of Paulding County was privileged to have Kendra Stoller (Member Service Representative, Paulding Putnam Electric) as the guest speaker at the April 18, 2024, club meeting. Kendra came at the invitation of Randy Price (CEO, Paulding Putnam Electric).

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Kendra spoke to the Kiwanians about Country Maid, Inc. which is the company that her parents started out of their home when she was a young girl living in West Bend, Iowa. Many of us know this as the company that makes Butter Braids.

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WARRIORS DROP DECISION TO LEO

LEO - A pair of East Allen County Schools hooked up in a non-league high school baseball contest Tuesday night with host Leo nipping visiting Woodlan 8-7. It was the host Lions who struck first, getting a single run in the first for an early 1-0 advantage. Woodlan responded in the third, plating a pair of runs for a 2-1 lead before the Warriors expanded the margin in the fourth with a quartet of runs that pushed the margin to 6-1. Leo then had an answer of its own in the bottom of the fourth, getting a trio of runs to trim the deficit to 6-4. After Woodlan scored

once in the fifth to make it 7-4, the host Lions rallied for the win with a four-run sixth to record the 8-7 victory. The winning score came via a Woodlan error that allowed Dominic Rennecker to reach and Riley Stewart to score the decisive run. Landon Ruoff had a single and a triple to lead the Leo offense with Landin Hoepfner posting a single and a double. Crew Kaylor added two singles for the Lions while Luke MacDonald, Kamden Zeisloft and Wyatt Francher picked up a single apiece. Hoepfner also scored twice for Leo and Ruoff drove in two runs for the Lions. Ruoff picked up the win for the Lions, pitching 1-2/3 innings in relief with one strikeout while allowing two hits. Stewart tossed the first 5-1/3 frames, giving up eight hits, seven runs (five earned) and one walk with seven strikeouts. Oliver Adams and Braden Smith both had a pair of singles for Woodlan while Drew Fleek picked up a triple. Gavin Sheehan and Ethan Trygg also added a single apiece for the Warriors with Clayton Rosier totaling three singles and two runs scored.

DEFIANCE - Tyson Gerber and Tucker Antoine both recorded a pair of hits to lead the Wayne Trace Raiders to an 8-5 victory over host Ayersville in Green Meadows Conference baseball action Tuesday evening. Gerber singled twice and drove in two runs for the Raiders with Antoine adding a single and a double to go along with two runs batted in.

FORT JENNINGS - Host Fort Jennings scored all of the runs it would need in the first inning as the Musketeers blanked Antwerp 11-0 Monday in high school baseball action. The Musketeers scored four times in the bottom of the first before adding two each in the second and third frames. Fort Jennings completed the scoring with a three-run fourth. Owen Calvelage struck out six while scattering two walks and one hit to pick up the win for the Putnam County squad. Derek Hines had the lone

hit for Antwerp, a single. Calvelage, Bryce Gasser and Evan Ellerbrock all had two hits for Fort Jennings with Sam Dube, Weston Brinkman and Eli Lucke getting one hit each. Calvelage, Carson Gilchrist, Gasser, Jarron Swick and Dube scored twice each for the Musketeers with Ellerbrock also touching home plate. Ellerbrock drove in three runs while Dube picked up two runs batted in.

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DOROTHY



I have recently run across a topic which is quite interesting. If I were younger you would be on my bucket list. Much of Appalachia's history was passed down from person to person through hundreds of years, in stories. Stories of tragedy, faith, loss, and community. I know this story is true, because Dorothy was my friend.

Dorothy's daddy was a mean drunk. When he was sober he was nice as can be, but when he got drunk, it didn't matter what he drank, he got mean. He always said she weren't his. Many a night I would sleep in the woods to stay away from daddy, but one night I had had had enough. I packed all of my possessions that I could, took my brother's horse and away I went.

Dorothy traveled for 3 days, until she was well into Tennessee. After waking up from her camp on the 4th night she happened to see there was an empty cabin above her. It had the appearance of not being used for quite some time. She stayed in the cabin and in the coming days made it as comfortable as possible. The next day she discovered there was a town down in the valley. She had very little food but she had taken her father's pocket watch, and going down to the village she was able to sell it for a bit of food.

A month of barely surviving, now she was completely out of food, and at the end of

her rope. She had always held the Lord dear, but she hadn't prayed in a long time. She did the only thing she knew to do, she got down on her knees and pleaded with God. As the tears fell and she pleaded there was a knock at the door. As she peeked out she could see two men that caused her to fear. Since there was no back door, she thought the best thing was to scream and run as fast as she could. Maybe she could get away.

As she passed the men, one grabbed her and held her, but he tried to reassure her that they were not there to cause her harm. The old man was named Isaiah, and he was the preacher at the little church. The young man was Tom and he lived in the valley. His wife had passed a couple of years ago. They said this was the old Pence place, you must be a Pence. She lied and said she was, and asked the Lord to forgive her in the same breath. John Pence was like kin to us, we'll take care of you. They asked her if she needed anything, and she said a bit of flour, a bit of grease, and some cornmeal. They told her they would be back before nightfall and they brought these items plus many more things the village people had given them.

Thomas began escorting her to church, and life was beginning to look up. One night she heard voices outside, and one of them was the voice of her daddy. There were five men with torches. Again she was in a panic. "Come on out and take your beating. We're taking you home." There were five men with torches. Again Dorothy knelt and cried out to God. She prayed so hard she could hardly breathe.

"We know that horse, come on out or we're coming in to get you. Let's get back home." Everything went silent, and she peeked out she could see Isaiah, Thomas, and the entire community stand-

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Classified ads are \$8.50 for 20 words or less and \$.15 for each additional word.
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HELP WANTED: Part-time cashier at Antwerp Pit Stop. Starting pay: \$13-14/hour. Send resume to antwerppitstop@gmail.com or stop in to pick up an application. For more info, 419-258-1628 16-17

GET YOUR BUSINESS CARDS at West Bend Printing today! Call 419-258-2000

TIMBER WANTED: Specializing in walnut trees and hardwood trees. Buyer of standing timber. Call Gary Keegan 517-296-4601 51-50p

DEADLINE FOR THE CLASSIFIEDS IN WEST BEND NEWS IS FRIDAYS AT 12 NOON!!!

WANTED: Old toys, postcards, jewelry, coins, railroad items, watches, military collectibles, antiques, pens, stamps, comics, magazines, records. Paulding by the jail. (419)399-3353 or txt 419-786-9514. tf

FORT DEFIANCE Antiques: 402 Clinton St. Downtown Defiance, OH. Hours M-Sat 10-5. 419-782-6003 tf

FOR SALE: 1979 John Deere 2040. Beautiful green tractor w/ front end loader, runs well. Instant start up. Independent PTO. 6500lb w/wheel weights, Rear Hydraulic remotes, & quick hitch! Rear R1 Tires like new! only \$12000. Skid Steer Quick attach & bucket bracket for \$1000. 419-258-0127.

FOR SALE: Simplicity Broadmoor 12.5 Hydro lawn tractor. Very good cond., Maintained. New electric clutch, drive belt, \$775. Also I have a lot of shop tools and equipment for sale, too much to list. Mower and shop equipment shown by appointment. ALSO, 2 4-speed transmissions for sale, Muncie - Borg Warner Super T-10. 419-399-4606, leave message. 16-17p

ACPL & BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK ANNOUNCE SUMMER PARTNERSHIP TO COMBAT FOOD INSECURITY

The Allen County Public Library (ACPL) invites the media to a kick-off event and funding announcement of a new partnership between ACPL and Blessings in a Backpack. The two organizations have pooled resources to extend the Blessings in a Backpack mission beyond the academic year. From June 7 through July 26, eight Library locations will act as distribution sites for bags of non-perishable foods. Each bag includes enough food for a child to last the weekend.

The Library has a long-standing partnership with Fort Wayne Community Schools (FWCS) to distribute lunches and snacks over the summer. In 2023 alone, the Library distributed 12,000+ lunches and 3,000+ snacks to local youth.

"This partnership just makes so much sense. For years, we've been proud to partner with FWCS for lunches and snacks - and with Blessings in a Backpack on board - we can extend that impact over the weekends as well," said ACPL Youth Services Manager Jacki Fulwood. "Because of this partnership, fewer children will be hungry over the summer. It's easier for the mind to learn when the body is fed."

Over the course of the summer, ACPL plans to distribute approximately 5400 bags in total. These will be available at the Main Library, as well as, the Georgetown, Hessen Cassel, Little Turtle, Pontiac, Shawnee, Tecumseh, and Waynedale branches. According to the St. Joe Community Health Foundation, 14% of Allen County is food insecure including

more than 18,000 children. "Food insecurity is real in our community. Too many children experience hunger over the summer when the safety net of the school system is unavailable to them," said Blessings in a Backpack Executive Director Jama Ross. "We are so excited to partner with ACPL to help feed these children and to keep their bodies and minds sharp. It takes a village, and we are so thankful to our donors and partners!"

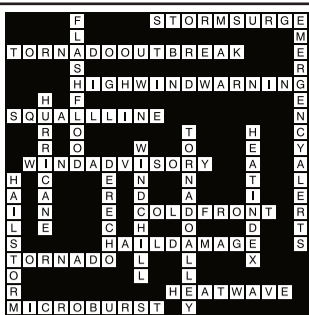
The partnership is fully funded thanks to the generosity of Health First, Do it Best Foundation, the Fort Wayne Community Foundation, and the Rifkin Family Foundation. The FWCS and Blessings in a Backpack partnerships coincide with the ACPL's annual Summer Learning Program "SPARK" which serves tens of thousands of young people each summer with reading activities across its fourteen locations.

The ACPL's Main Library, as well as the Georgetown, Hessen Cassel, Little Turtle, Pontiac, Shawnee, Tecumseh, and Waynedale, will provide FWCS lunches and snacks Monday through Friday and Blessings in a Backpack weekend meal bags every Friday. All food is free and available to youth under age 18. For more information, visit acpl.info/SPARK.

OHIO HIGHWAY PATROL INVESTIGATES A FATAL TRAFFIC CRASH

Spencerville, OH - The Lima Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol is currently investigating and three vehicle fatal traffic crash. The traffic crash occurred today, April 17, 2024 at approximately 9:30 AM.

A 2007 Chevrolet Cobalt operated by Felicia M. Higginbotham, age 20, from Lima, Ohio was northbound on Sunderland Road and failed to stop for the stop sign at Spencerville Road. Her vehicle entered the intersection and struck a westbound 1996 Kenworth semi operated by Nicholas J. Myers, age 34, of



Crossword solution from page 9

Grover Hill, Ohio. After impact with the semi, Miss Higginbotham's vehicle was struck by an eastbound 2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee operated by Jeffrey D. Hunt, 60 years old, of Lima, Ohio. The Cobalt and Grand Cherokee exited the south side of the roadway where they came to a rest. The Kenworth semi remained on the roadway coming to a controlled stop west of the intersection.

Felicia M. Higginbotham suffered fatal injuries as a result of the traffic crash. Nicholas J. Myers was treated at the scene by Spencerville EMS and Jeffrey D. Hunt was transported by Spencerville EMS to Mercy - St. Rita's Medical Center for non-life-threatening injuries.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol was assisted by Spencerville Police Department, American Township Police Department, Spencerville Fire and EMS, Allen County Coroner's Office, Allen County EMA, ODOT, Amanda Township Road Maintenance, Able Towing, Knippin's Towing and Beaverdam Fleet Towing.

The Ohio Highway Patrol reminds drivers and passengers to wear their seatbelt and to never drive distracted. The crash remains under investigation and alcohol and drug use is not believed to be a factor.

Call or Email your classified ad today!
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1990 INTERNATIONAL 4900 4X2 DUMP TRUCK 140" W.B.
Crane Township, Paulding County

- Engine - DT466
- Miles - 217498
- Hours - 1892 (Not sure if correct)
- Automatic Transmission
- 9' Gladhill Bed - Model 400 U-9 (4.6-6.6 CY)
- Bed In Excellent Shape
- Not Road Worthy - Bad Frame
- Selling As Is

The Trustees of Crane Township, Paulding County will receive sealed bids until Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. At that time, bids will be publicly opened at the Crane Township Hall, located at 302 N. Main St., Cecil, Ohio 45821.

Starting Bid is \$500. Bids must be placed in a sealed envelope and clearly marked, "Crane Township Dump Truck." Each bid must contain the full name and address of each person or company interested in the truck. Bids can also be mailed to the Crane Township Fiscal Officer, 17374 U.S. 127, Cecil, Ohio 45821 and received by June 20, 2024 by 5:00 p.m. The Trustees have the right to receive or reject any and all bids. Anyone submitting a sealed bid will have the opportunity to increase their bid at the time of opening.

If you have any questions, would like more picture or do an inspection, please call Trustee Kevin Stuart at 419-786-8000.

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JUNIOR FAIR BOARD CRAFT SHOW AT DEFIANCE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS



The Defiance County Junior Fair Board members have been busy cleaning up the fairgrounds in anticipation of the upcoming Craft and Vendor Show on Saturday, May 4. The show will be held from 9 am - 3 pm at the Defiance County Fairgrounds in Hicksville, Ohio. Please enter at Maple Street livestock gate down from McDonalds. There are over 45 crafters and vendors registered and the Shake Shack and Cattlemen's

Food Stand will be open. Crafters and Vendors will be set up in the multipurpose building, county building, merchants building and outside. There will also be balloon animals and face painting.

This event is rain or shine. For more information call 419-782-4771. Proceeds from the event benefit Junior Fair expenses such as cleaning supplies, mulch, rakes, and shovels.

2024 ANTWERP GEM OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS NOW ACCEPTED

Do you know a real "Gem"? A civic minded person who has made or is making the Antwerp community a better place? Someone who lives in the Antwerp School District and has not previously received a "Gem of the Year" award? Then honor them by nomi-

nating them for the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce 2024 "Gem of the Year" award!

Forms available on-line at Antwerp Chamber web page, Antwerp Chamber of Commerce Facebook page, the Antwerp Pharmacy, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Petals & Vines, and GenFed Federal Credit Union. Return forms in the "Gem Nominee" box at the

Antwerp Pharmacy. All entries must be received by May 11, 2024.

WOODBURN MOTHER'S DAY FESTIVAL

The community of Woodburn is planning a Mother's Day Festival on May 11, 2024, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in downtown Woodburn. Come for a time of entertainment & refreshments.

VAN WERT ELKS ESSAY CONTEST WINNER



Wayne Trace 7th and 8th grade students participated in the Van Wert Elks Americanism Essay Contest. 7th Grader Brooke Stoller, daughter of Blane and Mindy Stoller, was selected as a winner and will be recognized at a Youth Day Breakfast where she will receive a monetary prize.

46th HONOR FLIGHT FROM FORT WAYNE

Honor Flight Northeast Indiana is slated for its 46th Honor Flight from Fort Wayne April 24, 2024. Eighty-Five veterans from the Fort Wayne area are booked

and confirmed for the flight. Included will be, 6 Korean War veterans, 11 Cold War veterans, 67 Vietnam veterans, 1 Lebanon/Grenada veteran. Included on this flight are 9 Veterans that served their country in more than one war or conflict. As of this date 3,394 veterans have traveled from Fort Wayne to Washington, D.C. on an Honor Flight.

Honor Flight Northeast Indiana thanks all the organizations and individuals who, through their donations at local events and fund-raising events have made it possible to give our Veterans a day of remembrance and honor for their service. The visits to all the memorials built in their honor, make this a wonderful day for the men and women who deserve our respect and honor!

A Welcome Home celebration is scheduled at the Fort Wayne International Airport for 9 PM. Please plan to arrive by 8:00 pm and park in the Long-Term Parking Lot.

Cathy Berkshire, President of Honor Flight Northeast Indiana, and the entire Honor Flight Team are excited to honor this group of veterans on our First flight for 2024. "We are so thankful for the community support of Honor Flight so we can Honor our Veterans with their trip to Washington, D.C. We look forward to having a large crowd at the Fort Wayne International Airport to welcome these Veterans home."

Honor Flight Northeast Indiana, Inc. is a volunteer, nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

OPENING DAY DONUTS IN HARLAN & WOODBURN

Opening Day for the Famous Woodburn Lions Donuts will be Saturday April 27 at the Harlan Park by the shelter house. They will be available from 7:00-11:00 a.m. The following Saturday we will be in the Woodburn Park by the Basketball Court. See our ad in this issue for the 2024 Donut Schedule. Thank you for your continued support of the Woodburn Lions. All proceeds are donated to local, area, and Lions projects.

FREE EXPUNGEMENT PRESENTATION AT IVY TECH

A free presentation by local attorney, Heidi Fowler, explaining Indiana's Expungement Law and local resources for legal assistance will be given on Tuesday, May 7th from 6:00-7:00 p.m. The event will be held at Ivy Tech Community Col-

THIS WEEK ON PCBW: DAEGER AND KAUSER



This week on Paulding County Business Weekly we hear how a recent Land Bank property acquisition and demolition is going to grow into a beautiful veterans memorial in Paulding. VFW Post Commander John Daeger and Land Bank Board Member Mike Kauser share all the details on this week's edition of PCBW. Tune in on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 8:00 a.m. and

5:00 p.m. Missed this week's episode? No worries. You can listen to this episode and previous ones online at www.my1027.org/paulding-county-business-weekly/ or find it on various podcast platforms including Apple, Google, and Spotify. Thank you to OhioMeansJobs for sponsoring this program. #pauldingcountystrong #PCBW

lege, 3701 Dean Drive, Tech Center Lecture Hall, Room #TC1125.

Indiana's law allows a one-time opportunity for some low-level convictions, misdemeanors, and arrest records to be expunged (sealed) from criminal records. The Second Chance Initiative, a partnership of the Volunteer Center and the Volunteer Lawyer Program, offers individuals that meet qualification requirements the opportunity to have their Indiana conviction records expunged.

Volunteer Center Executive Director Ani Etter states, "A criminal record is one of the largest obstacles to better housing, employment, and education. The Second Chance Initiative provides a door to better opportunities for the future."

For more information, visit www.volunteerfortwayne.org

NORTHWEST STATE TO HOST SUMMER CAMPS FOR STUDENTS OF ALL AGES!

Northwest State Community College will host a series of hands-on summer STEM camps for learners of all ages, beginning on June 10 with Music Creation & Performance. The camp season will wrap up on July 11. This year's summer camp subjects include many of Northwest State's academic divisions, including Custom Training Solutions (CTS), Arts & Sciences and Nursing & Allied Health, and Business & Public Service. All camps will be hosted at the Archbold campus, and campers can expect fun, hands-on learning activ-

ities as part of their action-packed camps.

For all grade ranges listed below, it is the last grade students finished unless the camp specifies otherwise.

JUNE CAMPS
 Music Creation & Performance (Grades 6-12) - RoboMania: Where fun meets Future Tech (Grades 3-4) - LEGO Brick Builders (Grades 3-4), Babysitting Basics (Ages 12 & older) - First Aid Camp (Grades 5-12) - Her Royal Scientist Camp (Grades 1-2) - Jr. Brick Builders (Grades 1-2) - Entrepreneurial Adventure (Grades 5-8 and Grades 9-12) - Engineering Innovators (Grades 5-8) - Masters of the LEGO Brick (Grades 5-8) - Wild About Animal Art (Grades 4-8)

JULY CAMPS
 Manufacturing Marvels: Exploring Industry Wonders with Spangler Candy and Beyond (Grades 5-8) - Beginning Robotics (Grades 5-7). Dr. Todd Hernandez, President at Northwest State, noted "The NSCC summer camps mainly focused on STEM and advanced manufacturing in recent years, but our faculty across campus have really brought some innovative camp ideas to fruition this summer, and we're excited to see campers of all ages at the College."

For a complete listing of the Northwest State summer camps, including dates, ages, fees and registration information, please visit NorthwestState.edu/Camps, or contact Jani Tisovic at the College by phone at 419.267.1381 or by email SummerCamps@NorthwestState.edu.

MEAT MARKET
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 Ph: 260-632-0707

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SAT-SUN, 10-6

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<p>JIMMY DEAN COUNTRY MILD BREAKFAST SAUSAGE 1 LB TUBE \$2.49</p>	<p>ASSORTED SWEET OR SALTY SNACKS 79¢ EACH OR 20/\$9.99 99¢ EACH OR 15/\$9.99</p>	<p>KITCHEN READY CHICKEN OR BEEF BROTH 1 QT. CARTON \$1.49</p>
<p>PANCAKE & SAUSAGE ON A STICK HEAT & SERVE \$5.79 PER PKG</p>	<p>EDWARD'S THAW & SERVE TURTLE CRÈME PIE \$6.39</p>	<p>CENSEA COOKED SHRIMP 2 LB BAG FROZ. \$14.95</p>
<p>HORMEL MESQUITE SMOKED TURKEY BREAST PER LB \$3.99</p>	<p>FRESH & FROZEN CHICKEN LEG QUARTERS PER LB \$1.79</p>	<p>FAMILY SIZE CINNAMON TOAST CRUNCH \$3.99</p>

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BEST LOOK

Sale starts April 22 & ends April 27, 2024

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www.grabillhardware.com
 Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-6pm, Saturday 8am-5pm